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'We will show Ofsted how good we are'

DEFIANT: Cecil Jones
headteacher Doug
Nichols with pupils.
Picture by Mark Cleveland



HEADTEACHER'S DEFIANT MESSAGE AFTER REPORT

By Steve Neale

STAFF and pupils at Cecil Jones have sent out a defiant message to inspectors – ‘Let us show you how good we are.’

That was call from headteacher Doug Nichols after Ofsted placed his school in special measures.

Concerns were raised after 37.5 per cent of the number of pupils passed 5 A*-C grades – below the national average of 48 per cent.

Mr Nichols said Ofsted had failed to take into account improvements that have seen the school’s pass rate rise from 33 per cent in 2008.

He also claimed inspectors had

not taken into account Southend’s grammar schools, which take 25 per cent of the top pupils from the catchment area.

Mr Nichols said: “I feel very disappointed for the students.

“Their success has been overshadowed by a report that is unbalanced and unfair.

“My message to staff is, ‘We know this does not represent the work we have done’. We know we will now be monitored. We will show Ofsted how good we are.”

His staff and bosses at Southend Council backed him.

Paul Greenhalgh, the council’s corporate director for children and

learning, claimed the inspectors’ judgement was not what the college deserved.

He said: “Unfortunately Ofsted’s report does not do justice to the school’s strengths.”

Many pupils and parents have also spoken out in support.

Year 11 student Sophie Edwards, 15, said: “This is a great school with lots of extra-curricular activities. The teachers are really, really great and it had been put down far too much.”

Fellow year 11 pupil Alex Goodwin, 16, said: “There is lots of support here with teachers staying after school to help bring our

grades up.

“This is a fine school – nowhere is perfect.”

Mr Nichols, 60, who has served at the school for 23 years, has announced his retirement.

He said it was his long planned intention to leave after his 60th birthday.

“It’s time for somebody else to lead the improvement journey we’ve started and show Ofsted and all of Southend that Cecil Jones is a school that is definitely going forward,” he said.

Ofsted dismissed criticism of its report. The school has lodged a complaint.

What do you think? Write to Yellow Advertiser, Acorn House, Great Oaks, Basildon, Essex, SS14 1AH, or e-mail letters@yellowad.co.uk

Festive fun day

A FESTIVE fun day will take place in Southend High Street on Saturday.

There will be roaming entertainment including Christmas Karaoke with Santa’s Elves as well as stilt-walkers and jugglers.

Shopper will also be able to skate for charity at the synthetic Ice Rink in Victoria Circus from 10am to 5pm. It costs £8 for adults or £5 for children, per half hour session, and is in aid of the Bosom Pals Appeal. Call 01702 216580 to book.

Traffic lights

A NEW set of pedestrian traffic lights have been installed at a busy road junction.

The lights are at the junction of Thames Drive and Marine Parade in Southend.

Andrew Meddle, Southend-on-Sea Borough Council’s head of planning and transport, welcomed the new additions.

He said: “The lights are the first in the town to make use of the latest technology in low voltage LED signal heads for both vehicles and pedestrians.

New website

SOUTHEND Arts Council have a new website and arts organisation directory.

The directory has been produced by the Arts Council in partnership with Southend-on-sea Borough Council.

The 30-page A5 booklet contains contact details for more than 120 arts related organisations in the borough and in the surrounding area and is available from libraries and the Visitor Information Centre.

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INSIDE

this week



Calls for a
better
Sunday bus
service

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Yellow Advertiser

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Recycled paper made up 80.3 per cent of the raw material for UK newspapers in 2005.



I Competition

WIN! Family tickets to see Brian Conley in Cinderella

BRIAN Conley - comedian, actor, chat show host and all-round entertainer - is leading the cast of this year's Cliffs Pavilion pantomime, Cinderella, in the role of Buttons.

Brian, who is currently starring in Hairspray at London's Shafesbury Theatre, in the role of Edna Turnball, has appeared in countless West End musicals, including Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, Me and My Girl and Jolson.

As well as hosting his own programmes such as Brian Conley This Way Up, The Brian Conley Show and An Audience With Brian Conley, he has also appeared in numerous television shows, including The Grimleys, Let Me Entertain You, Dirty Rotten Cheater, Last of the Summer Wine, several Royal Variety Performances and Ant and Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway.

Joining Brian on stage is the beautiful Michelle Potter in the role of Cinderella.

Michelle's stage credits include Mamma Mia!, Summer Holiday, West Side Story and Cats and on television she has appeared in Dalziel & Pascoe, Wire in the Blood and Young

Doctors to name but a few.

The hilarious and talented ventriloquist Dawson Chance plays the Baron, alongside his tortoise friend, Willy, while Brian Godfrey and Darren Southworth are starring as the outrageous dames.

The production is staged by Qdos Entertainment, the world's largest pantomime producer, and written and directed by Paul Elliott, and is sponsored locally by The Victoria - the place to meet.

Cinderella will have the Cliffs Pavilion hallmark of quality entertainment for all the family and outstanding value for money.

More than 20,000 seats have already been sold for the pantomime, so don't miss out on yours - as not even your Fairy Godmother will be able to get you one.

Cinderella runs at the Cliffs Pavilion from Saturday, December 12, to Sunday, January 10, 2010.

For tickets, call the box office on 01702 351135 or book online at www.thecliffs-pavilion.co.uk

To win one of six family tickets - each admitting two adults and two children - to the 7.15pm performance of Southend's biggest panto yet, on Wednesday, January



6, just answer the following question.

Q: What is the name of the musical that Brian Conley has been starring in at Shafesbury Theatre?

Send your answer, along

with your name, address and telephone number, to Panto Competition, Yellow Advertiser, Acorn House, Great Oaks, Basildon, Essex, SS14 1AH. Entries must be received by Monday, December 21.

Chemists



Southend - Every Sun (10am-8pm) and Mon-Sat (8am-11pm), Chemist@Southend, 75 Queens Way, every Sun (10am-4pm), Sainsburys, 45 London Rd and Asda Stores, North Shoebury Rd, Shoeburyness.
Leigh - Sun-Fri (8am-11pm) and Sat (8am-6pm), Derix Healthcare Pharmacy, (opposite side of Leigh Primary Care Centre), 1065 London Rd.

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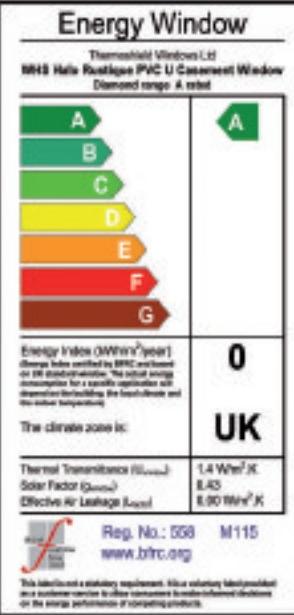
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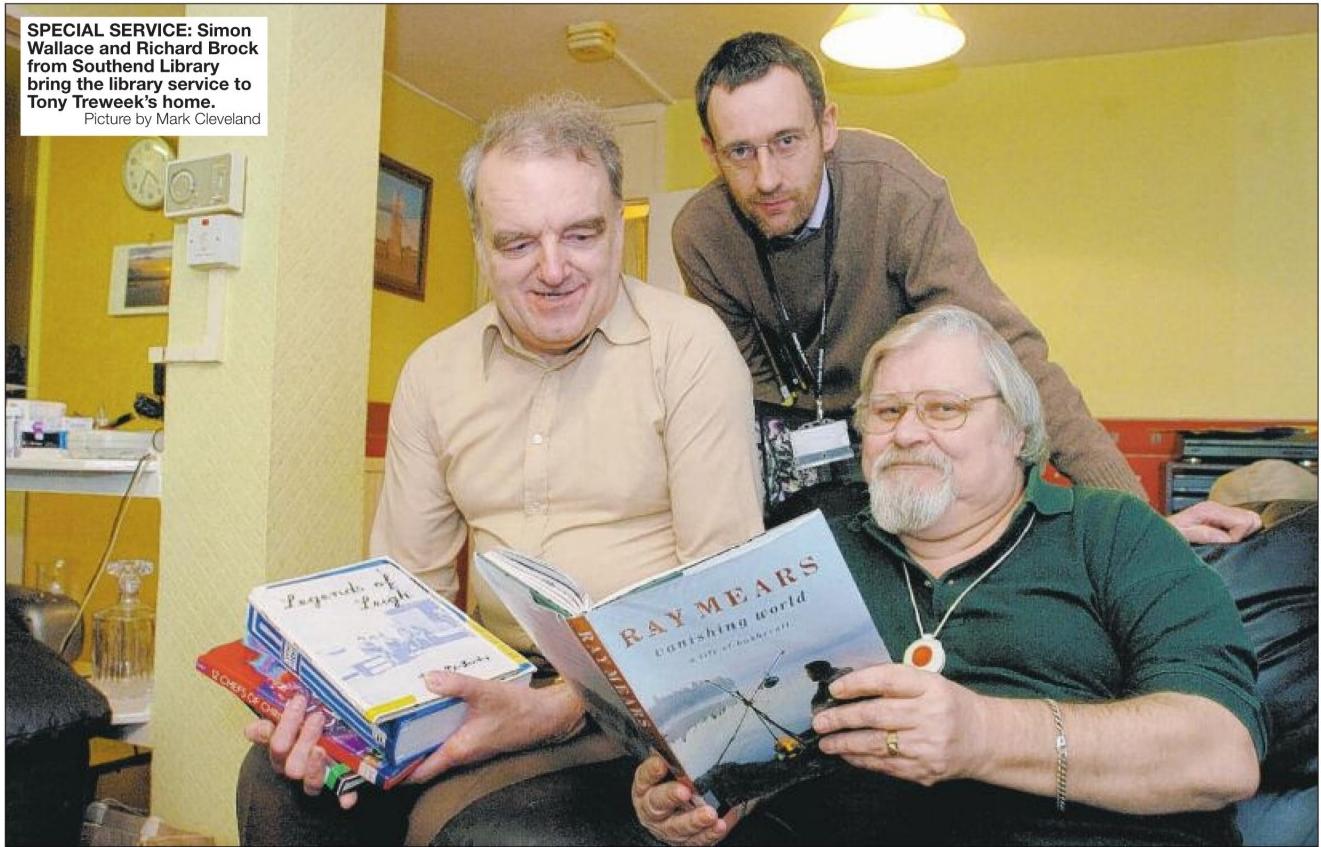
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SPECIAL SERVICE: Simon Wallace and Richard Brock from Southend Library bring the library service to Tony Treweek's home. Picture by Mark Cleveland



YA readers come forward after appeal for volunteers

By Karen Davis

MORE than 60 people have volunteered to help deliver books and CDs to disabled people following a Yellow Advertiser campaign.

The team will offer other library services to housebound individuals, and staff now want clients to make use of the resource.

Simon Wallace, from the library's community team, said: "Our cus-

tomers cannot praise this service highly enough.

"We aim to offer a personal service and hopefully build up a good relationship with each individual."

Currently, 69 volunteers select and deliver around 30,000 books, audio tapes and CDs, large print books, videos and DVDs to 250 readers and carers each year.

Before an appeal was launched for more volunteers, there were just three

distributors.

The service also extends to carers who are looking after someone.

Simon added: "Sometimes, our visitors are the only human contact our clients get, so we feel that we are providing something invaluable.

"We have volunteers ready and waiting so if you feel that you could benefit from this service, then please get in touch."

The Home Library Service also

holds events to provide an opportunity for customers to choose their own books – something which they cannot normally do – enjoy listening to a guest speaker and chat socially over tea and cakes.

To find out more, call 01702 534125 or visit www.southend.gov.uk/library

The service operates from all seven branch libraries with pairs of trained volunteers visiting customers on a fortnightly basis.

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Panto workshop for children

SOUTHEND Library is holding a pantomime workshop for children to learn all about the Christmas tradition.

The workshop takes place on Monday, December 21, from 1-3pm and is suitable for children aged six to 12.

Tickets cost £5 per child and are available from Southend Central Library - for more information, call 01702 215011.

Credit Union milestone

STAFF at Southend Credit Union celebrated signing up its 1,000th member last week.

They were joined by the Mayor, Councillor Brian Smith, and Mayoress, Lynn Smith.

Paul Flynn recently became the 1,000th member of Southend Credit Union and was presented with a nominal sum for his account.

Operation Christmas Child

MORE than 60 boxes for children in need have been filled by Rayleigh students.

Pupils at FitzWimarc School, in Hockley Road, collected items as part of the Samaritan's Operation Christmas Child appeal.

Teens shown how to drive

THUNDERSLEY teenagers have been shown the dangers of dangerous driving.

SEEVIC College students were given demonstrations by Essex Fire and Rescue Service teams at their Runnymede Chase site on Thursday.

Pupils were faced with hard-hitting stories and videos of car accidents, aimed to shock them into driving more carefully.



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CARING: Sister Janie Keetch, Doreen Appleton, Mick and Moira Doxford and staff nurse Rebecca Massey show off the new bladder scanner.



The editor formerly known as
Fidge

I DO not run my own business, but if I did I would ensure my employees understood the importance of customer service.

It seems a simple thing to say, but so many places seem devoid of it.

I recently overheard one assistant working in a major high street chain telling a workmate that she had been asked by her manager to 'teach her colleagues to look happy'.

Apparently, they had received a number of complaints that the staff didn't look like they were enjoying their job.

I too encountered some bad customer service when I went to renew my mobile phone contract recently. I was told by the shop assistant that I wasn't a very valuable customer because I was 'too safe' and never spent beyond my tariff. My punishment for this – despite being with them for 10 years – was a charge of £197 for the phone I wanted.

Luckily, I managed to get the phone for a fraction of the price from the apologetic woman on the cancellation line.

Compare that with the wonderful example of how to treat customers I got when trying to buy my wife's birthday presents recently.

I was fortunate enough to get a wish list from the Missus – I'm hopeless with hints and using imagination – and set about trying to find a coat and jeans in store.

Having failed miserably and being male and not wanting to ask for help, I trudged back to the office empty-handed.

After realising I'd left things too late to order online, I rang the store – River Island – and got through to a member of staff, who not only checked the items were in stock, but also went and found the right sizes of the rails, put them aside for me and then apologised for taking so long to get them even though it was only about five minutes.

And when I went to pick them up from the shop a couple of hours later, she also remembered my name.

So I made sure I remembered her name – well done MJ at Basildon River Island, that's how it's done.

By Karen Davis

SOUTHEND University Hospital's A&E department now has its own machine to probe the depths of the bladder - without patients feeling a thing.

Thanks to the Prittlewell Lily charity, the department now boasts a state-of-the-art bladder scanner that

works by ultrasound to measure bladder volume.

It is easy to use and quickly provides physicians and nursing staff with accurate results to improve the diagnosis and management of bladder disorders.

As well as being pain free, this type of equipment can avoid the need for some patients to be

catheterised.

Prittlewell Lily, with Moira and Mick Doxford at the helm, has been raising money for Southend University Hospital for more than 25 years.

The charity ran a shop in London Road, Leigh, for five years for the benefit of the hospital and although it closed its doors in 2005, the avid

fundraisers are still helping.

These days, they raise money from table sales, coffee mornings and garden sales by selling donated items.

Receiving the new equipment, A&E sister Janie Keetch said: "We are delighted to have our own bladder scanner in the department and would like to thank Prittlewell Lily for making this possible."

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Sign a petition for better bus service

BUS campaigner councillor Mike Royston has launched a petition to improve bus service provision for residents in his area.

Mr Royston (Lab, St Luke's ward) said: "I am campaigning for an improved Sunday bus service and extension to the times of the weekday evening buses for local residents."

"Cluny Square and a large part of St Luke's ward have no Sunday buses to speak of, and weekday buses stop running at about 6pm."

"This is very restrictive, and improving the bus service would greatly improve the quality of life for residents."

"I am urging Southend Council to subsidise routes where necessary and work alongside bus operators to bring about the improvements that are needed."

"I aim to collect as many signatures as possible to prove there is a real need for this improvement to the service."

Residents who wish to sign the petition can contact Mr Royston on 01702 347472 or sign the online petition at www.rselabour.com

CAMPAIGNER: Councillor Mike Royston.



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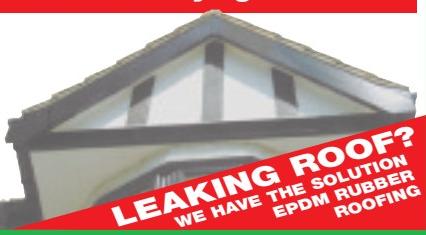
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Police to operate unmanned planes



By Stephen Neale

POLICE plan to fly unmanned spy planes over Essex from 2012.

The airborne patrols, created by Essex-based BAE Systems and already used by the military, can fly for up to seven hours and are operated by remote control.

Trials are currently ongoing as part of a partnership between BAE and Essex and Kent police.

An Essex Police spokesman said: "Police forces have a number of means at their disposal to investigate crime and are constantly looking at new technology to increase their

capacity to combat crime and gather intelligence.

"Remote-controlled aircraft and other unmanned air systems are currently being developed and The South Coast Partnership, of which Essex Police is a member, is exploring the feasibility of using unmanned air systems as another method of patrolling the coastline and infrastructure in the south east of the country."

The South Coast Partnership includes Kent and Essex Police Forces, the UK Border Agency, the Maritime and Coastguard Agency and the Marine and Fisheries Agency

together with industry partner ,BAE Systems.

Existing regulations and laws mean drones are not allowed to be used in civilian areas, but changes are expected to be introduced by 2011.

Police chiefs said they are particularly keen to see the craft used for surveillance, road and railway monitoring, search and rescue support, harbour security, event security and media coverage, communications relays, major incident assessment, frontier security and covert urban surveillance.

They claim they will concentrate first on policing of illegal entry to

and exit from the UK, particularly of small, fast vessels involved in human trafficking, contraband transportation, duty avoidance and other criminal activity.

Chief Inspector Richard Watson, responsible for Air Operations for Kent Police, said: "This partnership is exploring new approaches in terms of police aviation.

"It makes good sense for us all to contribute to it and share the costs and benefits."

CRAFT: Pictures of the remote controlled plane made by BAE Systems.



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Festive run

A SOUTHWEND celebrity took part in a charity walk around Thundersley woodland.

West End star, Lee Mead, who won BBC's 'Any Dream Will Do', opened 'Santas on the Run' around Little Havens Children's Hospice, in Daws Heath Road, on Sunday.

Residents taking part were required to dress in festive costumes while walking either 5k, 3k or 1k around the site.

Saving energy

FREE advice will be given to Rochford residents about how to save energy.

Rochford District Council will provide information in 'Energy Surgeries', which will include how to apply for grants.

Rochford Library will host the first on Friday (tomorrow) from 9am to 6pm before holding more talks on Tuesday, December 15, from 9am to 1pm.

Residents can also visit Rayleigh Library on Friday, December 18, from 8.30am to 1pm.

Mayor's Awards

ENTERPRISE in Castle Point will be recognised with the Mayor's Award 2010.

Businesses in the borough can enter the competition in partnership with Castle Point Business Forum, Business Link and the Federation of Small Businesses.

This year, RW Carpenters Ltd, in South Benfleet, was named winner.

Closing date for applications is Friday, February 12.

The ceremony will be held at Runnymede Hall, Kiln Road, in Kiln Road, Thundersley, on Saturday, April 17. Call 01268 882200 for more.

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RELIEVED: Councillor Mike Assenheim at the gasometer in Elm Road, Shoeburyness.

Picture by Mark Cleveland

Eyesore to be removed

By Karen Davis

A HUGE tank which has been labelled an 'eyesore' and a 'blot on the landscape' has finally been decommissioned after 50 years.

The gasometer in Elm Road, Shoebury, which had the capacity to store thousands of cubic litres of gas, rose up and down as gas was pumped in and out and supplied neighbouring homes and businesses.

Independent councillor Mike Assenheim has lived next to

the edifice for more than 30 years and has campaigned for its removal for many years.

He is delighted at the decommissioning.

He said: "The gasometer has blocked out our sunlight and interfered with our televisions for years.

"I cannot wait to install a satellite dish, which would never work before."

The National Grid said the gasometer would be replaced by liquid gas, which will be stored underground.

Spokesman, Anthony Quarrell, said: "We can confirm that the gasometer is being decommissioned, but as yet we have no plans to move off site.

"It may well be a lengthy process."

Mr Assenheim added: "There will no doubt be a lot of ground contamination which will have to be dealt with before the site can be re-used, but at least we have been assured that its ugly shadow will no longer loom over Shoebury."

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Tickets scam warning

IN THE run up to Christmas, police are urging members of the public to exercise caution when purchasing event tickets.

Police are investigating a series of scams where fake tickets to sporting events and gigs were advertised on posters and flyers displayed across the area.

In these cases, unsuspecting buyers handed over their money but never received any tickets - some even involved buyers left waiting at meeting points for coaches that never arrived.

Chief Inspector Glen Westley said: "We would urge residents to ensure they buy tickets through reputable companies and if it appears too good to be true, it probably is."

Get a slice of the action

A NEW pizza store will be giving away 1,000 slices of free pizza to celebrate their opening.

Domino's Pizza in Shoeburyness will also be giving away 200 free beach balls as well as hundreds of free goody bags containing gifts and menus on Saturday between 12pm to 2pm.

Domino's mascot 'Danny Dominoid' will also be attending to entertain the children.

Franchisee, Paul Ashurst, said: "Since the store opened its doors the response from local residents has been very positive.

The new store opened on November 23 and can be found at 78-80 Ness Road.

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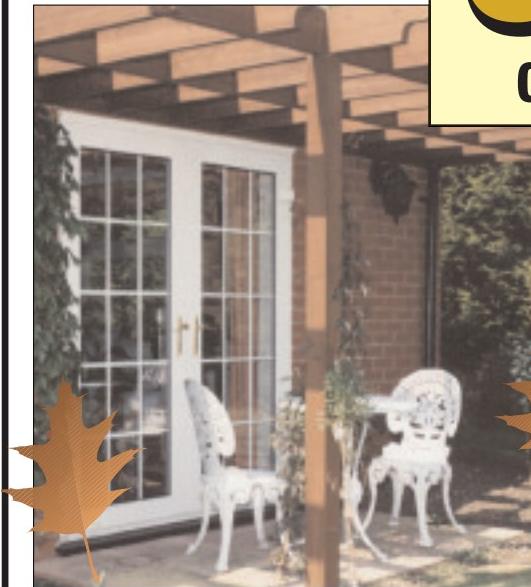
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Bumper bonus for health boss

By Jenny Green

ONE of the UK's most successful health chiefs has received a bumper Christmas bonus.

Dr Patrick Geoghegan OBE, chief executive of the South Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust (SEPT), made it on to the Public Sector Rich List 2009 after being rewarded with the one-off payout.

According to the recently released report, which is published by the TaxPayers' Alliance and looks in to public sector salaries, Dr Geoghegan took home £200,000 in 2008/09, compared to £172,500 the previous year.

The most recent figure is inclusive of the bonus.

SEPT is one of the highest performing NHS Trusts in the country and Dr Geoghegan was recently voted NHS Leader of the Year.

During his time in charge, SEPT has also been the only mental health trust in the country to achieve the highest ratings possible for use of resources and patient care three years in a row.

A spokesperson from SEPT said: "The chief executive's salary is in line with other Trusts and NHS organisations of its size.



BONUS: Dr Patrick Geoghegan OBE.

"Any pay rises for the chief executive and directors have always been in line with the national cost of living increases for all NHS staff which, for 2008/09, was 2.75 per cent.

"In 2007/08, SEPT's Board of Directors agreed not to award bonuses to the chief

executive and directors.

"In 2008/09 to recognise the Trust's exceptional performance in national ratings, a one-off bonus was paid and is reflected in the figures reported in our Annual Report and the TaxPayers' Alliance report for 2009."



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NOT HAPPY: Firefighters are preparing to step up their action.
 Picture by Martin Dalton

Firefighters refuse extra work

By Pat Jones

ESSEX firefighters are refusing to work for extra pay on their days off.

The block is the latest twist in an ongoing dispute between staff and management.

Fire service chief, David Johnson, plans to give firefighters a chance 'to use their professional skills to fill other station shortages on days off, rather than pursuing other jobs' to earn extra cash.

However, fire crews claim the offer is simply a way of disguising a rising number of

vacancies at fire stations across the county.

Members of the Fire Brigades Union (FBU) are currently operating a 'work to rule' and refusing to cover empty posts.

"We are extending our industrial action and blacking this idea from the chief," said union spokesman Keith Flynn.

"We will refuse to enter any new work agreements or secondary individual contracts, but we will still continue with the youth schemes and trauma training we already carry out."

Mr Johnson said the dispute was delaying the off duty

scheme, which would have helped firefighters earn more money, and accused the union of being 'duplicitous and antagonistic' over this latest offer rather than the current dispute.

Paul Adams, FBU assistant secretary, claimed Essex Fire Authority had not addressed any of the key issues in the dispute, which centres on job cuts and the downgrading of specialist fire appliance crewing.

A meeting scheduled for last Thursday had to be cancelled when Mr Johnson went into hospital for surgery.

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Firearms officer warns over imitation weapons

By Paul Giles

PARENTS have been urged not to buy their children toy guns or imitation weapons after fears youngsters may be challenged by armed police officers with real guns.

Essex Police officers have been called to numerous incidents where youngsters were in possession of BB guns.

Firearms officer PC Andy Wheddon said: "When we respond to such incidents, we cannot always identify whether a gun is real or fake."

"Carrying an imitation gun could ultimately result in a highly-trained armed officer having to challenge a teenager and so, naturally, we are worried."

"This has to stop now."

BB guns are made to be identical to real guns in colour, size and detailed appearance.

While they can only fire small plastic ball bearings, their resemblance to a real firearm has prompted many calls to the police and officers must respond to every incident with the assumption the weapon is real.

Officers are frequently called to situations where their use can be easily misconstrued.

Armed officers recently attended a petrol station where motorists had called police because a young man had brandished a gun on the forecourt.

It later turned out to be a BB gun, but the fear was that an armed robbery was about to take place.

PC Wheddon said: "While they are

legal to own, parents must ask themselves whether it's really appropriate for children to have these guns.

"If they do, they must learn to use them responsibly."

"We cannot have situations where innocent members of the public are injured by missiles they, or we, fire."

Superintendent Simon Williams is determined to use every effort to educate communities, especially young people, about the dangers associated with the use of any weapon.

He said: "Fortunately, gun crime in this county is not as common as maybe elsewhere in the UK, but that does not mean we should be complacent."

"Each gun taken off our streets means one less which could potentially kill someone in the community."

Union slams decision over body armour

By Matthew Stanton

UNION members have slammed a decision to stop Essex ambulance crews wearing body armour.

The Association of Professional Ambulance Personnel criticised East of England Ambulance Trust for withdrawing the safety equipment.

Body armour was first introduced to county crews in 2006, which followed the lead taken by London Ambulance and Dorset, who already provide armour.

Ian Boothman, chairman of the Association of Professional Ambulance Personnel, stressed more staff have been assaulted in the last year in Essex than in 2006.

He said: "The Trust's decision to withdraw body armour for its staff in future is difficult to reconcile."

"We consider this a retrograde decision by the Trust."

"It seems to reflect a national narrative from ambulance trusts that appear to be in denial over the significant risks that 999 personnel face on a daily basis."

Statistics released by the NHS Security Management Service show there were 24 physical assaults on Essex ambulance staff in 2008/9.

This was more than double the 2007/8 total.

Nationally the figure is much higher with 1,240 physical assaults against ambulance staff in England in 2008/9.

The Union has been campaigning for 12 years for Trust's to provide body armour to staff.

A spokesman for the East of England Trust confirmed that staff who have vests are not being asked to give them back.

He said: "During a public Board meeting in June, the Board members agreed that while stab vests wouldn't be withdrawn, no new stab vests would be issued in Essex and as equipment reached the manufacturer's replacement date, these would not be replaced."

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REPLICA: Police warn parents not to buy fake guns.



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Government raps children's services

By Stephen Neale

ESSEX'S failing children's service has been criticised by Government - just six months after being ordered to improve.

Children's Minister Dawn Primarolo has written to Essex County Council warning that 'further necessary interventions' are needed.

She described the council's 'slow progress' in making improvements in children's social care. An improvement notice was issued by the Government in March over its concerns.

Ms Primarolo acknowledged some progress had been made following the appointment of a new director for children's services.

But on Friday she said: 'Nonetheless, I have written to the council today to inform them

that I am minded to use powers to establish a robust framework that reinforces existing work, to provide assurance that the necessary and urgent improvements needed are secured quickly.'

The intervention means that the Secretary of State has powers to establish an Improvement Board and appoint an independent Chair; enforce a revised improvement plan; and receive bi-monthly reports from the board's chair.

The council has until tomorrow to make representations on the proposals set out above.

Councillor Peter Martin, deputy leader of Essex County Council, said the authority was committed to working with Government to improve the service.

He explained: 'I am confident that we are turning the corner.

'We know there is still work

to be done to secure the right provision for children but we are confident that we can make the changes needed to deliver high quality front line practice and an organisation that is fit for purpose.'

The authority has introduced a programme of support and modernisation to help staff working with children and young people in greatest need of help.

Officers have introduced new technology to reduce bureaucracy. An overseas recruitment campaign has filled 43 vacant social work posts.

■ The Yellow Advertiser has launched an investigation into the quality of children's care at Essex Social Services. If you have first hand knowledge of failings or concerns call in total confidence the investigation team on 01268 505769.

Parent sent to prison

A SOUTHPEND parent has just begun a 28-day prison sentence for failing to ensure their child attended secondary school.

The parent, who cannot be identified for legal reasons, pleaded guilty and was jailed by

Southend Magistrates on Monday, November 30 after a third appearance in court for the same offence in the past 20 months.

The child attended just 12 school sessions out of a possible 175 between November 2008 and April 2009.

Under Section 444 of the Education Act 1996 parents have a legal duty to ensure their children regularly attend the school at which they are registered.

In the past year, the parents of 44 children have appeared in court for these issues, and the Council has issued seven Fixed Penalty Notices for offences related to non-school attendance.

A parent or carer may be summoned to appear before the local magistrate, for failing to ensure their child's regular attendance at school.

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Scheme on Warrior Square commences

By Karen Davis

WORK has started at Warrior Square Gardens, which is set for a transformation as part of a major landscaping project.

Some trees and shrubs have already been removed to make way for new plantings and landscaping.

The project is expected to be completed by autumn 2010 and to keep residents and visitors informed a new site board is now in place complete with a timetable of works.

The aim is to turn the area into a outdoor area for the whole community.

Regeneration company, Renaissance Southend and Southend-on-Sea Borough Council secured Homes and Communities Agency funding for the scheme, and believe that the new look gardens will be capable of staging public events. Landscape architects, Gillespies, have developed a series of designs based around the original Victorian concept.

The mature trees will be retained and turned into a 'Lime Walk' with a raised walkway to reflect the Victoria concept of promenading.

Linear custom-made seating will run along the extent of the 'Lime Walk'.

New lighting will mean that the gardens can be used for outdoor events.

Councillor Derek Jarvis said: "This refurbishment will



TRANSFORMATION: Work is starting on the landscaping project at Warrior Square.

make a tremendous difference to this key part of Southend.

Though the main works will take place next year, we have already carried out some preparations in readiness.

"This initial work has opened up views into the gardens to create a more welcoming space, whilst benefiting a number of key feature trees such as those along the lime

walk.

"The lime walk is just one of the elements of the exciting new design for the gardens, which will be a wonderful destination for residents and visitors, and also includes an entrance square, kiosk and floral walk."

■ See letters page 18 for one reader's view on this story.

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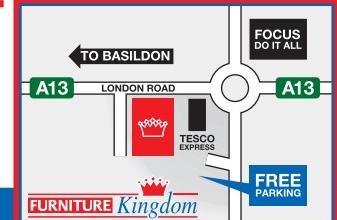
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CRUSHED: This is the destiny of the fake alcohol that was recently seized in Southend.

Warnings on fake alcohol

By Karen Davis

SHOPPERS are being warned to be aware of buying fake alcohol this Christmas.

HM Revenue & Customs made the call following an operation last week across Essex resulting in the seizure of more than 3,000 litres of illegal beer, wine and spirits.

During their visit to Southend officers found 919 litres of alcohol with no duty paid including Italian-labelled wine and counterfeit whiskey and vodka.

This resulted in the owners of two shops facing further enquiries. The estimated duty loss is £3,470.

Maddy Ratnett, spokesperson for HMRC, said: "That small minority who flout the law by selling illegal alcohol are depriving honest shopkeepers of vital income."

"We work closely with local people and businesses in the fight against this crime and encourage anyone with information relating to illegally imported goods to contact the Customs Hotline on 0800 59 5000 or email customs.confidential@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk"

FACTBOX

THESE tips should help you avoid purchasing counterfeit or suspect spirits.

- Price Too low- the duty and VAT (15 per cent) on a 70cl bottle of 37.5 per cent vodka is £6.83 and for a 70cl bottle of 40 per cent whisky is £7.29. If you paid less than this the spirits are suspect.

- Labelling - poor quality print counterfeit labels are often poorly printed. Common mistakes are spelling errors, print misalignment of colour logos and faint printing.

- Labelling - manufacturer/producer/distributor details. Genuine spirits should be labelled with a name and address. For EU manufactured products this could be as simple as a name and post code. Products with no name and address are suspect.

- Labels - quality counterfeit labels may be stuck on crooked or creased.

- Content - white particles bottles of vodka should not have any white particles in the spirit or white sediment in the spirit, or white blooming of the glass. These effects are due to the dilution of the 'spirit' with regular tap water.

- Content - fill height variations between bottles may indicate that they have been manually filled and therefore suspect.

- Closure - loose cap. The screw cap and its retaining ring should not both turn when trying to open the bottle. This may indicate the cap has been manually fitted rather than closed by machine and the spirit may be suspect.

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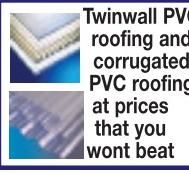
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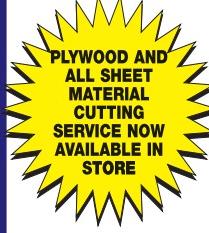
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Opinion and readers' letters

Brown should give evidence

THE Chilcot Enquiry into the Iraq war is a good thing.

I am pleased with this enquiry because it will get information out into the public domain concerning the skewed motives of the then New Labour Prime Minister Tony Blair.

My wishes are that the British people will not be misled in the same way at any time in the future when it comes to decisions to go to war.

It is important for Prime Ministers to be honest about the decision to go to war.

The justification provided at the time were that weapons of mass destruction were present in Iraq.

As we all know, weapons of mass destruction were never found in Iraq which proves that we were lied to by the Labour Prime Minister.

I believe his then Chancellor and now our non-elected Prime Minister Gordon Brown was complicit in the decision to take Britain into a war for the wrong reasons.

I believe he should be interviewed as part of the enquiry to find out what his specific role in meetings he held at the time with his colleague Tony Blair.

I believe whatever the outcome of the enquiry, the British people need to see that all the key people will be held to account in a non staged public forum.

If an apology cannot be provided then the Chilcot Enquiry will expose the key people for the problems they have contributed to.

We may have assisted Iraq in liberating them from Saddam Hussein, but I wonder whether the Prime Minister's main motive all along was to depose Saddam Hussein?

If this was the case, he should have been honest at the outset without having to provide flaky evidence about the presence of weapons of mass destruction.

**Councillor Blaine Robin
(Conservative) Southend**

Is there room for facts?

I REFER to the letter from Eileen Peck that 'Climate change must be serious' (YA Letters, Nov 26).

She and others of like mind are persuaded by the flood of information beamed at us that climate change is man-made.

This ignores much evidence to the contrary. We know Methane and water vapour are far greater contributors to global warming.

Our own fair county with all its marshes and wetlands is a serious culprit. But there's little that can be done about those. So there's no research grants and no platforms for the ambitious.

Ms Peck quotes the World Meteorological Organisation to support her beliefs, which says,

quote- 'Most of the observed increase in global temperature since the mid 20th century is very likely due to the observed increase in anthropogenic(?) greenhouse gas concentrations'.

'Most' and 'very likely' are not definite enough terms for some of us.

I listen to the likes of Professor David Bellamy who says that if we lassoed this island of ours out into the Atlantic and sank it, it would remove just two per cent of the world's CO2 being blamed for the warming problems we face.

This hardly warrants the fuss, chaos and costs currently visited on us.

I take the view that when there are Nobel prizes and knighthoods, grants and profits, book deals and lecture tours in the offering that there will be little room in the arena for dissenting views or facts.

Philip Walter, Billericay

PM must act on promise

IT is a disgrace that Gordon Brown has not yet acted on his promise to abolish prescription charges for people with long-term conditions.

The recession has devastated people's finances and many are making difficult and potentially dangerous decisions not to purchase their medicines just so they can afford daily necessities, like food and heating.

This situation seems particularly unfair when prescription charges have been abolished in

Wales and are being phased out in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

After well over a year, nothing has happened. I, for one, have not forgotten the commitment Mr Brown made in September 2008 and call on him to prove this was not just a 'politician's promise' by scrapping prescription charges for people with long-term conditions as soon as possible.

I also urge other readers to show Gordon Brown that we have not forgotten his promise, by signing the 'Prescription Promise' petition at www.prescriptionpromise.org

Kim Malone, via e-mail

actually prove that nature has nothing to do with the problem, I suggest they refrain from insulting others who are asking for that proof.

Global warming - yes, possibly. Caused by man alone - very unlikely.

**Terence F Matthews LL.B
(Hons), Upminster**

Writer is wrong

I REFER to VE Bush of Romford's comments (YA Letters, Dec 3).

I quote: 'Foxhunting may be a cruel pastime. But the fox, if caught, is usually despatched with minimum of pain.'

Does VE Bush really believe that being ripped apart by a pack of hounds creates 'minimum pain'?

The next thing will be the fox actually enjoys the sport! Get real.

Perhaps VE Bush would like to take the foxes' place and have a pack of hounds chasing him/her and rip him/her apart?

I wonder if they would then think they are dying with minimum pain. I think not.

VE Bush then has the audacity to state they are a animal lover. How dare they make such a statement - they clearly have no love of animals if this is the way they think

C Hampton, Upminster

A thank you to hospital staff

AFTER all the adverse reports about our hospitals in the media recently, I would like to say thank you to all the staff of Southend Hospital for all their care and support.

In January of this year, I collapsed on the floor of A&E and the doctors and nurses saved my life.

I went home after two weeks only to do exactly the same thing again four days later.

Once again, we could not fault the attention and care provided. I eventually came out of hospital at Easter and have been recovering ever since.

During this time, I was in seven different wards and can honestly say that I had good care in all.

Yes, there were a few things

that were not perfect, but the staff are only human and the fault lies in shortage of staff, which surely is down to shortage of money.

The domestic staff do their best and most of them are very conscientious, but they cannot do more than they have time for.

I am now looking forward to Christmas with my family and especially my grandkids, and am also looking forward to the birth of my seventh grandchild in January.

And many other people, I am sure, would like to thank ALL the staff of Southend Hospital for giving me my life back and wish them a very Happy

Christmas and New Year.
Doris Lambert, via e-mail

We can be extraordinary

I AM absolutely convinced that ordinary people are capable of doing extraordinary things when they put their minds and hearts to a task.

On Thursday evening, I had the pleasure of attending a public meeting at the Spread Eagle pub in Southend, where SKIPP (The Saxon Museum People) presented their plans for a museum in Priory Park, to the world, and I have to say I was very impressed.

With limited resources at their disposal, ordinary members of the public have managed to create something amazing. Not just a museum, but a whole Saxon centre, complete with a Great Hall, Saxon houses, even a workshop judging by their passion, in my opinion I truly believe they will succeed.

Take it from me, forget your modern glass and steel eyesores, if you want to see something really worth seeing, then back the SKIPP plan and insist that our council build their Saxon museum centre, because it will be something really extraordinary.

M Garvey, Southchurch Avenue, Southend

Warrior Square should be saved

THE mindless devastation of our town is continuing. With the cutting down of the trees in Warrior Square, we take one step closer to a hideous future, in which beauty must make way for the council's fetish for steel and concrete, for ugly and functional, rather than pretty and ornate.

As a former resident of Warrior Square I have a particular affection for it majestic serenity. I will never forget my first winter there, waking up to a square covered in gorgeous white blanket of snow; a truly magical sight.

But now the Council and its unelected quango, Renaissance Southend, are having their way, perverting what was once magical, into something more in keeping with their twisted idea of what they call 'the street scene'.

Joni Mitchell once sang 'they paved paradise and put up a parking lot', well in the case of Southend 'they are concreting over Warrior Square and putting up a pointless steel arch, a futuristic snack kiosk and concrete seating on a concrete slab'.

Shame on the Council, Renaissance Southend and to be honest myself for not being there when the chainsaw gang turned up.

Mark Sharp, Laurel Close, Southend



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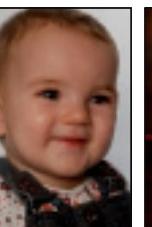
Finalists



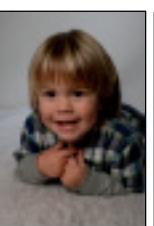
0 – 9 Months

1005
Vincent1006
Giselle1008
Conner1024
Gracie1025
Reece1028
Lee1064
Thomas1066
Louis1091
Sophie1111
Thomas

10 – 18 Months

2004
George2008
Alfie2011
Millie2012
Lacey2018
Remi-Maysen2023
Shailan2028
Emma2029
Darcy2062
Lacey2065
Tiyannia

19 – 36 Months

3005
Kyra3008
Elyssia3010
George3019
Kaitlin3024
Alfie3025
Edward3036
Lucy3041
Darcey3044
Frankie3045
Olivia

3 – 6 Years

4002
Erin4012
Rose4020
Beau4028
Stan4030
Natalie4031
Adam4036
Beatrice4038
Freya4039
Oakley4040
Lacey

The finalists from each age group have been chosen by Yellow Advertiser readers for a chance to be voted Southend Yellow Advertiser Baby & Toddler of the Year 2009. Our judging panel will choose a winner from each category and an overall winner.

The overall winner will receive a framed 15"x12" print of the winning portrait worth over £115 and a trophy. The winners of each category will receive a framed 15"x12" print worth over £115. Winners will be announced in the Yellow Advertiser on Thursday 17th December 2009.



VISIT: Countdown's Rachel Riley is guest of honour.

Picture by Tom Purslow

Countdown star set for school visit

COUNTDOWN star Rachel Riley is coming to St Thomas More High School's Christmas Bazaar on Saturday.

The former Southend High School for Girls student will be guest of honour at the event, which runs at the school in Kenilworth Gardens from 1pm to 4pm.

Rachel said: "As a local school specialising in maths and computing, both very important skills for any career and for life generally, I'm pleased to be supporting the Thomas More High School community and its fundraising efforts."

The day will include a raffle with a £250 cash prize, as well as a luxury £100 Waitrose Christmas hamper and many vouchers.

There will also be tombolas, crafts and cards, competitions, refreshments and 10 per cent of proceeds to Little Havens.



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Yellow Advertiser

Designer jewellery thieves face jail

By Paul Giles

TWO people have been found guilty of stealing nearly £4m worth of designer jewellery from Southend Airport.

The theft happened shortly after 5pm on Monday, May 21, 2001, where 2,000 items of Cartier jewellery were stolen.

Joseph Xenofondos, an unemployed 34-year-old, from Loughton Way, Loughton, was charged with one count of conspiracy to steal and was sentenced to five years imprisonment.

Gary Maughan, a 43-year-old nurse, from Queensbridge Road in Hackney, north London, was charged with one count of conspiracy to steal and one count of handling stolen goods and was sentenced to six years imprisonment.

Their trial began at Basildon Crown Court on Monday, October 26 and on, Monday, December 7, the jury returned guilty verdicts on all charges.

On Monday, senior investigating officer, Detective Superintendent Tracy Hawkins, said today marks the end of an investigation that began in May 2001 when these defendants conspired to steal nearly £4 million worth of Cartier merchandise.

She said: "In May 2008, the investigation took on a new twist when one of the conspirators, Tom Baisden, came to police and confessed his part in one of

the highest-value thefts ever investigated by Essex Police.

"Gary Maughan and Joseph Xenofondos then enjoyed the proceeds of their crime during the following years, with a lavish lifestyle funded at the expense of Cartier who were the victims of this crime.

"During the 18-month investigation, we examined the financial aspects of this case and conducted numerous, protracted enquiries which traced Cartier goods that were discovered as far away as Asia.

"The main witness in this case, Tom Baisden, joined the Fifteen Foundation which is a charity founded by celebrity chef Jamie Oliver.

"It helps disadvantaged young people to turn their lives around and, in some cases, leave a life of crime.

"It was this experience that encouraged Tom Baisden to come forward and confess his involvement.

"Essex Police is determined to show that criminals who live off the proceeds of crime will be brought to justice and, where possible, their assets will be seized under the Proceeds of Crime Act.

Tom Baisden, a 27-year-old man from south Essex, had already pleaded guilty to one count of theft, one count of conspiracy to steal and one count of perverting the course of justice.



GUILTY: Gary Maughan.



GUILTY: Joseph Xenofondos.

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Or for more information email lizw@heymoscow.com

You can get your home security advice for free

POLICE are advising residents to be wary of salespeople adopting high-pressure sales techniques to sell security products.

Several members of the public have contacted Southend Police following phone calls from a company offering a free home security survey.

On the occasions where this offer has been taken up, residents have then been visited by salespeople using high-pressure sales tactics trying to convince the homeowner to buy overpriced products.

Lorna Watson, Essex Police's Crime Reduction Officer for the South Eastern division, said: "They've been known to use scare tactics to convince homeowners that they're in danger unless they buy these items.

"These companies may appear bona fide, with fancy websites and glossy brochures – but don't be fooled by the marketing material."

Police recommend those investing in a security device such as a burglar alarm, obtain several quotes and use companies approved by National Security Inspectorate (NSI).

To check a list of companies who are NSI approved, visit their website at www.nsi.org.uk

There are also several free options available.

The Help the Aged Handyvan scheme is available to the over 60s by calling 01702 464199.

Specialist fitters will carry out a survey of your home and then fit any necessary addi-

tional security features completely free of charge.

Essex County Fire & Rescue Service also offers free fire safety surveys to all residents by calling 01702 614433.

Visiting officers wear ID at all times and can issue residents with security passwords upon making the appointment – so when they arrive at the door, their identity can be verified.

People can also obtain free advice by contacting their local Neighbourhood Specialist Officers (NSO), who will be happy to talk them through steps they can take to enjoy improved home security.

For more information on who your local NSO is, visit www.essex.police.uk or call 0300 333 4444.

It's time for some festive music

THERE will be plenty of festive music in Southend this month.

Southend Girls Choir is presenting a Christmas Concert from 8pm at St Luke's Church, St Luke's Road, Southend, on Friday December 11.

The 80 strong choir will perform an evening of varied choral music, Christmas favourites, audience carols, readings, solos and much more. Tickets at £6 (or £5 for concessions) are available on the door or in advance from 01702 588700 or 01702 303628.

Then on Sunday, December 20, the Southend Bandstand in Priory Park will host 'Carols in the Park' - a Community Carol Concert for all the family.

This special event marks the official 2012 Olympic Day on the 20th day of the 12th month, and will be supported by Southend's Legacy 2012.

The hour-long concert starts at 2pm and will feature music performed by The Southend Band with community carol singers.

The concert is free and some seating is provided.

Southend's Executive Councillor for Culture, Councillor Derek Jarvis said: "We are very proud of our vibrant musical talent in Southend.

"We hope as many people as possible will be able to come along and support one or all of these forthcoming events, for a really resounding start to the Christmas celebrations."

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Anonymous survey 14th November 2009



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New fuel distribution centre set to be created on Canvey

By Paul Peterson

A FUEL distribution centre is being created in Canvey.

BP has signed a multi-million pound contract to create the centre at the Oikos Storage Ltd oil terminal, off Haven Road.

Bosses at BP said in a statement released this week that the deal would help supply fuel to wholesale customers and petrol stations in the Midlands and south east of England.

Residents and councillors have already raised concerns about the quantities of fuel used at the site.

BP spokesman, Mark Salt, said: "BP and the owners of Oikos Storage Ltd have ensured that health, safety, security and environmental protection are a priority in the agreement."

Mr Salt said the terminal would be one of only a few in the country to comply with the recommendations of the Buncefield Standards Task Group into the safety and environmental standards for fuel storage sites.

But people living near the Canvey terminal are worried



there will be more fuel tankers operating.

Mr Salt said: "There will not be any more tankers. The fuel will be shipped to the terminal from the River Thames and then moved from the ships through pipelines to the terminal."

Fuel supplies will then be pumped from the Oikos terminal via the cross country fuel pipeline (known as UKOP) to

BP's road distribution terminals based at Hemel Hempstead.

Work on the new distribution centre is expected to start in the near future - and it will be in use within the next three years.

DUEL: The white tanks of the Oikos Storage Ltd oil terminal, as seen from the air.

Picture by Martin Dalton

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HUNDREDS of Rayleigh Primary and Nursery School Children celebrated the Rayleigh Christmas Lights 'switch on' by entering a colouring competition organised by local estate agents Amos Estates.

The competition was supported by all of the primary school in Rayleigh and judged by Rayleigh Town Council Chairman Councillor Dave Sperring. The talented winners Owen Wright from Edward Francis Infants, Zoe Langford of Glebe Juniors and Rebecca Ross from Downhall Primary School were presented with their winners prizes in front of the large crowd who enjoyed the Christmas event.

Colin MacLean of Amos Estates said "Rayleigh Town Council organise a fantastic nights entertainment and thousands of visitors are attracted to the Town Centre to celebrate the start of the Christmas festivities, the standard of entries for our Colouring competition was very high and we are grateful to Councillor Sperring for making the difficult decision on the winners"

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Southend-on-Sea £119,995

- * CLOSE TO TOWN & MAINLINE STATIONS
- * Two bedroom purpose built first floor flat
- * Good sized lounge * Kitchen * Bathroom/wc
- * Electric central heating * Residential off street parking
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Southchurch £79,995

- * SPACIOUS ACCOMMODATION FOR THIS FIRST FLOOR FLAT
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LEIGH-ON-SEA £875 pcm

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LONDON ROAD, HADLEIGH £625 PCM

- * EXCEPTIONALLY SPACIOUS TWO DOUBLE BEDROOM FIRST FLOOR FLAT IN THE HEART OF HADLEIGH
- * Lounge *
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SOUTHEND ON SEA £450 pcm

- * INTERNAL VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED
- * One double bedroom first floor flat
- * Lounge * Kitchen * bathroom/wc * Gas Central Heating
- * Double Glazing * Recently redecorated
- * New carpet throughout * Garden to front * Ref: 1618



WAYLETTS, LEIGH-ON-SEA £650 PCM

- * VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED
- * Two bedrooms *
- Lounge * Fitted kitchen with integrated electric oven & hob *
- Integrated washing machine * Well appointed Bathroom/wc *
- Night storage heating * Allocated residential parking * Visitor parking * Modern interior design * Ref: R1615



WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA £750 pcm

- * NEWLY REFURBISHED TO HIGH STANDARD
- * Two double bedroom terraced house
- * Two reception rooms
- * Newly fitted kitchen * Double glazing * Gas central heating
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- * Garden to front * Ref: 1618

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Hadleigh £185,000

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Beresford Gardens, Hadleigh £375,000

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WICKFORD £209,950

- Three bedroom family house - Sought after position - Close to Wick country park, town and station - Lounge - Kitchen - Playroom - Double glazed conservatory - En-suite shower room - Double glazed -

01268 742 742

RAYLEIGH £299,995

- Imposing detached family residence - Substantial living space - Four/five bedrooms - Large kitchen/dining room - En-suite to master bedroom - Larger than average garage - Ideally located for Swayne school & station access -

01268 742 742

RAYLEIGH £225,000

- Two bedroom semi detached bungalow - Lounge - Kitchen - Double glazed conservatory overlooking rear garden - Three piece bathroom suite - Good sized rear garden - Close to local shops and schools - Easy access to high street and mainline station - Garage and off street parking -

01268 742 742

RAYLEIGH £225,000

- Three bedroom semi detached house - Older style property - Sought after Grove wood & Fitzwimarc catchment area - Spacious living accommodation - Lounge - Dining area - Kitchen - Utility room - 120ft approx rear garden - Garage and off street parking - Ref: Eay0984

LETTINGS



Wickford £1,500 pcm

Executive four bedroom detached house offering three large reception rooms, en-suite to master, conservatory & double garage. This property has been well maintained throughout benefiting from a large well established rear garden. Situated within a very sought after location overlooking River Crouch & Green Belt farmland.

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LETTINGS



Thundersley £675 pcm

Two bedroom top floor apartment situated within this exclusive development adjacent to Virgin sports centre, local woodland & local schools. This property benefits from having en-suite to master, open plan accommodation, allocated parking & security entry gates. Available immediately.

01702 555888

team

LETTINGS



Southend On Sea £525 pcm

We are pleased to offer this one bedroom first floor flat with allocated parking & situated within walking distance to train station & town centre. Viewings strongly advised.

01702 555888

LETTINGS

LETTINGS



Westcliff On Sea £450 pcm

One bedroom second floor flat with parking & communal garden, situated within walking distance to Chalkwell train station. This flat has a good sized open plan lounge with kitchen area, three piece bathroom suite & separate dressing room (please note the bedroom has very restricted head height).

01702 555888

LETTINGS



Scrub Lane, Hadleigh £850 pcm

Situated in this extremely sought after road within easy access of Hadleigh Town Centre, Junior and Infant Schools and within the Deans Catchment this is vacant, three bedroom detached chalet benefiting from double glazing and gas central heating throughout. Viewings essential.

01702 555888

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Rayleigh Office 01268 742 742**

01702 470044

48 Broadway, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex SS9 1AG

Fax: 01702 716956

Email: rvhall@btconnect.com

R. V. Hall & company

**EASTWOOD £239,995**

Having undergone comprehensive refurbishment throughout, a deceptively large semi detached house offering two reception rooms, kitchen/breakfast room, ground floor shower room and utility room together with four excellent size bedrooms. ehl1404

**LEIGH ON SEA £169,995**

Ideally located for the shops and restaurants of the broadway and within walking distance to mainline station, a two bedroom south facing purpose built flat offering superb views of the estuary and which also benefits from undercover parking. ehl1401

**LEIGH ON SEA £499,500**

With breathtaking views of the estuary and hadleigh downs, a beautiful cottage which has undergone comprehensive refurbishment, offering a wealth of charm and character, but also an abundance of contemporary fittings. A property which must be viewed internally to fully appreciate ehl1400

**WESTCLIFF ON SEA £275,000**

A substantial four bedroom semi detached character house situated within a stroll of westcliff mainline station and seafront, offering a wealth of character together with superb accommodation ideal for a family. Off street parking for three vehicles to rear. Must be viewed.

**LEIGH ON SEA £149,995**

Situated in this extremely popular location, and benefitting from off street parking, a deceptively large two/three bedroom first floor flat offering modern decor throughout. No onward chain. ehl1392

**LEIGH ON SEA £399,995**

Situated south of the London Road, and therefore conveniently situated for mainline station, a substantial extended four/five bedroom detached house, in this cul-de-sac location which must be viewed to appreciate the size and adaptability of the accommodation on offer. ehl1386

**LEIGH ON SEA £349,995**

Situated in this superb location south of Leigh Road a substantial three bedroom residence (originally a 4 bed) having undergone comprehensive refurbishment throughout, having luxury en-suite to master bedroom and which is within walking distance to mainline station, restaurants and shops. Must be viewed, no onward chain. ehl1384

**WESTCLIFF ON SEA £249,995**

In a quiet, popular location of westcliff on sea, a superb detached bungalow offering high quality accommodation including modern kitchen and bathroom, which also benefits from off street parking and extensive gardens. ehl1393

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Sales
and
Lettings

Horizon

Estate Agents

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and
Mortgages

Rochford**£239,995**

- New to the Market
- Three bedroom detached house
- Refurbished throughout
- Close to station
- Gas central heating
- Partly double glazed
- Must be viewed
- No onward chain

Rochford**£215,000****Rochford****£104,995****Rochford****£182,500****Hawkwell****£189,995**

- 3 bedroom semi detached house
- Close to Leisure Centre
- Off street parking
- Double glazed
- Gas central heating
- Much improved by present owners
- Viewing advised
- Popular location

Ashingdon**£299,995**

- Four bedroom
- Detached family home
- 98ft south backing garden



- Parking and garage
- Good sized accommodation
- Must be viewed

Rochford**£182,500**

- Two bedroom semi detached bungalow
- L-shaped lounge/diner
- Driveway and garage
- No onward chain

Eastwood**£1,250,000**

- Unique five bedroom home
- 125ft x 200ft plot
- Triple garage and parking

- Indoor swimming pool complex
- Double aspect lounge
- Viewing is advisable

Hair & Son
1528 London Road
Leigh
01702 470066

HIGHLANDS ESTATE £174,995

EDGE OF HIGHLANDS. We have been favoured with instructions to offer for sale this stylish & spacious 2 bedroom top floor apartment in a modern block only 5 years old. The apartment has a stylish fully fitted kitchen open plan bright south facing lounge, bedroom 1 has en suite shower room, white bathroom, heating, double glazed, entry phone system, freshly redecorated & new carpets and has the added advantage of 2 allocated parking spaces. The apartment is situated within an easy walk to Leigh station and is offered with no onward chain.

HADLEIGH £220,000NO
ONWARD
CHAIN

NEW - SOLE AGENT A larger than average semi detached house, individually designed and built to the current owners specification. Now available with early possession. The property offers Lounge 18 x 11'4, Dining room, Kitchen 11'6 x 10'2, ground floor wc, 3 bedrooms, family bathroom, lovely sunny south facing garden off street parking, double glazed & G.C. Heating within easy access to Hadleigh Infant & Junior schools.

LEIGH ON SEA £230,000

3 BEDS



Attractive semi detached house situated in this quiet and sought after location within a mile of Blenheim School and Belfairs Woods. 3 bedrooms, double glazing and gas central heating, 19' lounge and 19' fitted kitchen-breakfast room. 22' x 10' detached garage and well tended 30' garden. No onward chain. Excellent affordable family house.

MARINE ESTATE £300,000NO
ONWARD
CHAIN

We have pleasure to offer for sale this vacant character semi detached house situated on the popular Marine Estate within three quarters of a mile of Leigh station. Spacious accommodation comprising L shaped entrance hall, 2 good size reception rooms, kitchen, ground floor wc, 3 bedrooms, bathroom & sep wc, West backing garden off street parking and is realistically priced to allow for full modernisation which is required.



SALES
LETTINGS
AUCTIONS
MANAGEMENT

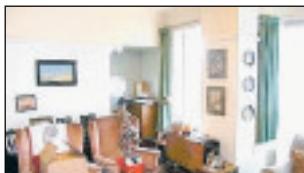
Hair & Son

COMMERCIAL
SURVEYS
HIPS
MORTGAGES

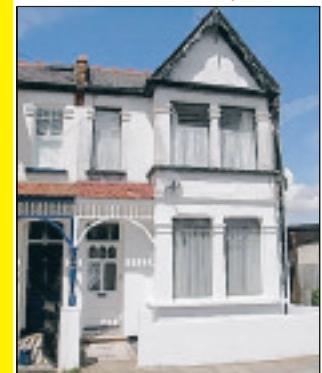
LEIGH ON SEA £249,995AVAILABLE
AGAIN**SOUTH OF LONDON ROAD £149,995**

Situated just off Leigh Broadway and internally decorated to a high standard can be found this Two bedroomed first floor flat, complete with Double Glazing and Gas central heating. The property offers a modern fitted kitchen and bathroom and is within reach of the main line railway station. NO ONWARD CHAIN.

Detached three bedroom house of immense character, situated just North of Blenheim Chase yet within reach of Belfairs Woods and golf course. The property has a detached garage, off road parking for three cars and room for a further garage to one side. Very nice South facing and secluded garden on a double width plot. Ground floor cloakroom and gas central heating [untested].

SOUTH OF LONDON ROAD £165,000CORNER
POSITION

Delightful, character semi detached house situated on a corner plot. Within walking distance of St. Thomas More, Westcliff High Schools, Our Lady of Lourdes and Darlinghurst school. Ideal for London Road shops. Early viewing recommended.

LEIGH ON SEA £134,995

Character ground floor flat located just off Leigh Road with no onward chain. Ideally situated for Chalkwell Park and Station. The flat has its own fenced patio garden extending to approximately 23' with a further courtyard area. Good sized lounge, separate dining room and double bedroom together with gas central heating [untested].

Hair & Son
54 The Broadway
Leigh
01702 480055

NEW



An extremely well presented two bedroomed first floor purpose built flat, situated South of the London Road. The local shops, cafe's and wine bars are all within half a mile including Chalkwell Station. The garage is located to the rear. Very nicely decorated internally and offering spacious accommodation. Gas central heating and share of freehold. Not to be missed!!!

SOUTH LEIGH £199,500

This vacant newly constructed two bedroomed ground floor apartment forms part of a very desirable block fronting the Estuary and is within a quarter mile to Chalkwell Station. Finished to a very high standard with a modern open plan Living Room, family bathroom and En Suite to the master bedroom. The apartment has direct access out to the large paved garden with steps leading down to the secure underground parking area.

Hair & Son

www.hairandson.co.uk

WESTCLIFF - SOUTH OF THE LONDON ROAD £129,950


Realistically priced for improvement this large two double bedroom First Floor Flat offers Lounge 15'9 x 12'7 opening to westerly facing balcony, dining room, kitchen, bathroom & w.c. Gas fired central heating & u.P.V.C. double glazed windows. Situated close to both the Esplanade & Westcliff mainline railway station.

CHALKWELL £325,000

NEW PRICE

Four bed detached house situated on the borders of the sought after Chalkwell Hall estate & offered with early possession available. Front Lounge, separate dining room, kitchen/utility, en-suite shower & w.c. to master plus family bathroom. Car parking to front garden, westerly backing rear garden approx 90' in depth with open aspect. Internal viewing recommended.

CHALKWELL £169,950

TWO BEDS

Two double bedroom sheltered accommodation situated on the sought after Chalkwell Hall estate. Lounge with distant estuary views, master bedroom with Southerly facing balcony, kitchen, bathroom & w.c. Excellent communal facilities including delightful residents lounge & guest room facility.

WESTCLIFF £172,950

MUST VIEW

Three bed family house situated in this popular location & offered with early possession available. Front Lounge, rear dining area, good sized kitchen area, ground floor w.c., first floor bathroom & w.c., & almost fully double glazed with gas central heating. Front & rear gardens.

SALES OVER 75% UP ON LAST YEAR. THOUSANDS OF WAITING BUYERS!
WESTCLIFF £99,995

MUST VIEW

SOUTHEND - CONSERVATION AREA £525,000

MUST VIEW

WESTCLIFF £129,500

SEA VIEWS

WESTCLIFF £277,950

FIVE BEDS

WESTCLIFF £164,950

UPDATING REQUIRED

WESTCLIFF FRONT £179,950

MARINE APARTMENT

Ground Floor Marine apartment located on sought after Westcliff Parade in the Shorefields Conservation area. Front Lounge, fitted double bedroom, kitchen, bathroom & w.c., gas fired central heating & triple glazing. Delightful Front & rear maintained communal gardens, allocated car parking.



119 Hamlet Court Rd - Westcliff on Sea
01702 432211

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THORPE BAY £215,000



A traditional style three bedroom semi-detached house offered for sale with no onward chain and benefiting from two separate reception rooms. The property has double glazing and off street parking for two/three cars available to the front, The Broadway shops and station are within easy level walking distance.

THORPE BAY £449,950



Situated literally within a few hundred yards of the beach and seafront is this four bedroom traditional style detached home. The property has a spacious and well presented accommodation with two separate reception rooms together with a well equipped and fitted Shaker style kitchen/breakfast room. The leisure facilities of the beach, golf, tennis and sailing clubs are all within easy reach.

THORPE BAY £349,950



An exceptional opportunity has arisen to purchase this cottage style three double bedroom detached house situated within a few hundred yards of the beach/esplanade, leisure facilities of Thorpe Bay Golf Club, Tennis Club and Yacht Club are all within half a mile. The attractive and well planned accommodation is maintained in our opinion to a high standard and as vendors sole agents we recommend early viewing.

**Property urgently required to replace STOCK SOLD in Thorpe Bay, Shoeburyness & Southchurch.
Call for a FREE market appraisal today!**

SHOEBURYNESS £299,995



An excellent opportunity has arisen to purchase this three bedroom traditional style detached house situated on the much sought after Thorpedene Estate being within one mile of the beach and offering NO ONWARD CHAIN. - PERMISSION AND PLANS AVAILABLE FOR GROUND FLOOR EXTENSION AND FOURTH BEDROOM (WITH ENSUITE BATHROOM) IN LOFT SPACE

SHOEBURYNESS £239,995



An excellent opportunity has occurred to purchase this three bedroom semi-detached house on the popular Thorpedene Estate, situated on a West backing plot and having the advantage of no onward chain. The property has attractive character elevations and there are many interesting and original features.



An outstanding opportunity has arisen to purchase this deceptively spacious five bedroom detached house, situated on the sought after Thorpedene Estate. Additional benefits include master and ground floor bedroom suites both with en-suite shower rooms and to the rear is a secluded West backing garden.

THORPE BAY £159,950



An excellent opportunity to acquire this first floor purpose built two bedroom flat within this popular development. The property is literally within yards of Thorpe Bay station and opposite The Broadway shops and in our opinion is presented to a modern and attractive decorative standard throughout.

THORPE BAY £180,000



A superb opportunity has arisen to purchase this two double bedroom second floor flat in this modern purpose built development. The property is situated within half a mile of The Broadway shops and station and is within level walking distance of the beach. In our opinion the property is maintained to a high decorative standard throughout and Burges Close has the benefit of a share of Freehold.



163 The Broadway - Thorpe Bay

01702 582255

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**DETACHED**

- Detached Chalet
- Spacious kitchen
- Two Bedrooms
- Double Glazing
- Gardens to front & rear
- Viewing Advised
- Good decorative order
- Close to local amenities
- Gas central heating

CASTLE ROAD, RAYLEIGH £700 PCM**COTTAGE**

- Semi detached Cottage
- Two Bedrooms
- Gas Central Heating
- New Carpets
- Two reception rooms
- Newly decorated
- Viewing advised
- Own rear garden
- Popular Location
- Gardens to Front & rear

RYLANDS ROAD, SOUTHEND £500 PCM**ENTRY PHONE**

- First floor flat
- Good decorative order
- Two Bedrooms
- Entry phone system
- Gas central heating
- Gas central heating

SOUTHBOURNE GROVE, WESTCLIFF £525 PCM**TWO BEDROOMS**

- Ground floor flat
- Close to Chalkwell Park
- Two bedrooms
- Fitted kitchen
- Close to all amenities
- Electric Heating

WESTBOROUGH ROAD, WESTCLIFF £795 PCM**TWO RECEPTIONS**

- Mid Terrace House
- Kitchen with oven & hob
- Three bedrooms
- Good condition
- Gas central heating
- Separate dining room

GORDON ROAD, SOUTHEND £575 PCM**CLOSE TO TOWN CENTRE**

- Ground floor flat
- Good decorative order
- Two large bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- Double Glazing
- Rear Garden

HASTINGS ROAD, SOUTHEND £450 PCM**PARKING SPACE**

- Ground floor flat
- Parking space to front
- One Large bedroom
- Good decorative order
- Night storage heating
- Viewing advised

LONDON ROAD, LEIGH £600 PCM**REAR GARDEN**

- Ground floor flat
- Part sealed unit double glazing
- Gas central heating
- Two bedrooms
- Rear garden
- Viewing Advised

HUDSON CRT, EASTWOOD £650 PCM**GARAGE**

- First Floor flat
- Rear garden
- Two large bedrooms
- Garage
- Night storage heating
- Carpets

HILLBOROUGH MANSIONS, WESTCLIFF £450 PCM**OWN GARDEN**

- Ground floor flat
- Good decorative order
- One bedroom
- Own garden
- Lounge
- Some double glazing

WOODSTOCK CRESCENT, HOCKLEY £725 PCM**DOUBLE GLAZED**

- Semi Detached House
- Gas central heating
- Viewing advised
- Modern Kitchen
- Two Bedrooms
- Good decorative order
- Double glazing
- Wood flooring & carpets

200 London Road • Southend on Sea

01702 341177

SORRELL

Sales

**LEIGH ON SEA £159,995**

Being situated within a sought after location within Leigh Close to Chalkwell Park is this attractive and fully refurbished ground floor apartment offering two double bedrooms. The property boasts attractive and quality newly installed kitchen and bathroom fittings and also has the advantage of full newly installed gas central heating and modern double glazing.

**WESTCLIFF ON SEA £113,500**

First and second floor one bedroom maisonette situated within a sought after location of Westcliff. The property benefits from its own private section of rear garden and has a garage with own driveway providing additional parking space. The property is being sold with no onward chain.

**SOUTHEND ON SEA £349,950**

Attractive first and second floor maisonette within an imposing Grade 2 listed Georgian property located in one of Southend's sought after positions within Royal Terrace and enjoying views over the Thames Estuary, three bedrooms, own rear garden and many original features.

**SOUTHEND ON SEA £119,995**

Well maintained modern purpose built third floor apartment, open plan lounge/kitchen with integrated appliances, two double bedrooms, bathroom/wc with separate shower cubicle, allocated parking, no onward chain, walking distance of Prittlewell Station.

**WESTCLIFF ON SEA £147,500**

Sought after location of Westcliff, South of the London Road and close to mainline railway station is this two double bedroom cottage offering early vacant possession. The property benefits from two reception rooms, gas central heating and has a small courtyard garden.

**EASTWOOD £179,995**

Immaculate and spacious semi detached bungalow, large lounge with separate dining area, spacious modern kitchen, two double bedrooms, bathroom/wc, off street parking for three vehicles, attractive 50' rear garden, early vacant possession.

**SOMERSET ESTATE £299,950**

One of the most sought after roads within the Somerset Estate is this character three bedroom semi detached family house. The property offers two spacious reception rooms and has an attractive and established 75' rear garden. The property also benefits from garage and ample parking.

**WESTCLIFF ON SEA £239,995**

Semi detached four bedroom family house offering good sized accommodation, modern fitted kitchen/breakfast room, utility area, two separate reception rooms, ground floor cloakroom, bathroom, separate wc, rear garden, garage and parking.

**CLIFFTOWN CONSERVATION AREA £117,950**

Immaculate second floor retirement apartment, lounge with balcony and views towards Bowring Green, kitchen, luxury bathroom/wc, double bedroom, attractive communal courtyard gardens, full residents facilities including lounge, laundry room and residents parking.

Lettings

**ROCHFORD £1,200 pcm**

Refurbished detached character chalet being situated in this sought after location off Hall Road. The property benefits from four double bedrooms, two reception rooms, newly fitted kitchen/ breakfast room, newly installed ground floor shower room, further new ground floor bathroom/ wc. The rear garden is laid to lawn and there is off street parking for two vehicles.

**THORPE BAY £600 pcm**

Spacious fully self contained first floor flat being situated in The Broadway Thorpe Bay. The property offers a large lounge and two double bedrooms, kitchen and bathroom/wc.

**SOMERSET ESTATE £800 pcm**

Fully self contained fully refurbished first and second floor maisonettes, two separate reception rooms, quality fitted kitchen, three double bedrooms, bathroom/wc with shower cubicle, south backing garden, full gas central heating, double glazing, sought after Somerset estate,

**CLIFFTOWN CONSERVATION AREA £465 pcm**

Being situated within the sought after Clifftown Conservation Area is this attractive end of terrace retirement bungalow being well maintained and offering vacant possession. The property is ideally situated for the Bowring Green, Prittlewell Square Gardens and Southend Town Centre.

**SOUTHEND ON SEA £375 pcm**

Central location of Southend within close proximity of Warrior Square gardens and Southend Central station is this well maintained studio flat benefitting from a lounge/bedroom opening onto a fitted kitchen

**SOUTHCHURCH £500 pcm**

One bedroom ground floor flat in new purpose built block, storage heating, wet shower room, drying room. Mature tenant required.

**SOUTHEND ON SEA £850 pcm**

Semi detached family house, two separate reception rooms, newly fitted kitchen with plumbing and recess for washing machine, recess for cooker, recess for upright fridge/freezer, three bedrooms, bathroom with electric shower over bath, separate wc, full gas central

SOUTHEND/ ROCHFORD

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HOUSE SHARES

Southend: Ashburnham Road: 2 x rooms, 2 x bathrooms. Use of fully fitted kitchen with washing machine. Male/Female £368.33pcm

Gt Wakering: High Street: A large room with sink & power shower. Use of all amenities. Available now £390 pcm

Rayleigh: Upland Park Road: 1 single room. Full use of amenities, OSP with secure electric gates, garden, GCH £300 pcm

Westcliff: Hainault Avenue: The whole of the 2nd floor of this maisonette consisting of 2 doubles & 1 single room, part-furn, DG (all incl) £550 pcm

Leigh-on-Sea: Rothwell Close: 1 double furnished bedroom with full use of facilities, working tenants only. Available now £350 pcm

Eastwood: Collins Way: 1 double furnished bedroom with full use of facilities, newly decorated, NO DSS. Available now (all incl) £320 pcm

ONE BEDROOM

Southend-on-Sea: Ely Road: GFF, unfurnished, 1 double bedroom, lounge, new kitchen, bathroom, garden, GCH, DSS ACC. Avail Now £525 pcm

Westcliff: Westbourne Grove: F/F/F, furn, 1 double, lounge, fully fitted kitchen, bathroom, garden, GCH, DSS Acc, Available Now £495 pcm

Southend-on-Sea: Chancellor Road: GFF, unfurnished, open plan lounge/kitchen, 1 dbl, GCH, DG, paved garden, DSS Acc, Available Now £550 pcm

TWO BEDROOM

Westcliff: London Road: FF, unfurnished, 1 dbl 1 sgl beds, open plan lounge/kit, bathroom, GCH, DG, DSS, Low dep. Avail now £575 pcm

Shoebury Ness: Ness Road: 2nd F/F, unfurnished, large lounge, new kitchen, 2 dbls, DG, GCH, all bills incl. except C/T £650 pcm

THREE BEDROOM

Basildon: Lincoln Road: GF maisonette, unfurnished, 2 dbl beds. 1 sgl bed, bathroom, lg lounge, garden, DSS acc, low dep £675 pcm

Rayleigh: Castle Road: 3 bed, unfurnished, lounge, kitchen, bathroom, grd, single glazed window, GCH, DSS ACC, Available Now £750 pcm

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ONE BEDROOM**TWO BEDROOMS**

SOUTHEND, Eastwoodbury Crescent £400 pcm WESTCLIFF, Salisbury Road £500 pcm

WESTCLIFF, Fairfax Drive £400 pcm WESTCLIFF, North Road £525 pcm

WESTCLIFF, Carlingford Drive £425 pcm SOUTHEND, Portland Avenue £525 pcm

SOUTHEND, Beaufort Street £450 pcm WESTCLIFF, Westborough Rd £575 pcm

WESTCLIFF, Chalkwell Lodge £475 pcm SOUTHEND, Priory Court £575 pcm

WESTCLIFF, Glenwood Avenue £475 pcm WESTCLIFF, Westcliff Parade £650 pcm

SOUTHEND, Cambridge Road £500 pcm SOUTHEND, Collier Way £750 pcm

SHOEBURY, Sunbury Court £500 pcm

LEIGH, Glendale Gardens £525 pcm THREE plus BEDROOMS

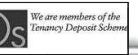
WESTCLIFF, Prince Avenue £750 pcm

SOUTHEND, Stadium Road £550 pcm SHOEBURY, Bulwark £750 pcm

WESTCLIFF, Hamlet Court Road £550 pcm RAYLEIGH, Langham Road £800 pcm

LEIGH ON SEA, Crescent Road £575 pcm RAYLEIGH, Crosslands Road £625 pcm S.W.FERRARS, Took Drive £975 pcm

SHOEBURY, Aylesbeare £650 pcm THORPE BAY BORDERS, Castleton Rd £995 pcm

BARRETT**Offices in Rayleigh,
Wickford & Westcliff****RAYLEIGH £495 pcm**

One bedroom second floor flat, bathroom / w.c with shower, modern kitchen, lounge, double glazing, unfurnished, available mid January

RAYLEIGH £595 pcm

Excellent 1 bedroom first floor flat close to high street and station, bathroom with shower, fitted kitchen with appliances, good size lounge, parking space, unfurnished, available end dec

WESTCLIFF £600 pcm

Spacious, recently re-furbished 2 bedroom ground floor flat with its own rear garden and parking space, newly fitted kitchen, bathroom with shower, unfurnished, housing benefit considered with guarantor, unfurnished

RAYLEIGH £625 pcm

Modern, excellent one bedroom 1st floor flat, close to high street and station, shower room / w.c., open plan lounge / kitchen, kitchen with most appliances, unfurnished, parking space, available mid jan

SOUTHEND £650 pcm

Well presented 2 bedroom 1st floor flat, 2 bedrooms, spacious lounge, well fitted kitchen with all appliances, close to town and sea front, secure parking, unfurnished

SHOEBURYNESS £695 pcm

Beautiful sea front apartment with breathtaking sea views, 2 good size bedrooms, spacious lounge / diner, luxury fitted kitchen with all appliances, bathroom / w.c. with shower cubicle, garage, furnished, part furnished or unfurnished

RAYLEIGH £750 pcm

3 bedroom first and second floor maisonette situated along the rayleigh high street, modern kitchen, excellent lounge with balcony, allocated parking space, unfurnished, available december

RAYLEIGH £775 pcm

Excellent 2 bedroom terraced house, lounge with 2 seater sofa and arm chair, kitchen / diner, modern fully tiled bathroom / w.c., unfurnished, 2 parking spaces, available now

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3 bedroom end of terrace house, good size lounge, dining area, kitchen, bathroom with shower, garden, unfurnished, gas central heating

HOCKLEY £795 pcm

Pleasant 3 bedroom terraced house with garage and parking, newly fitted bathroom / w.c., kitchen, lounge, gas central heating, unfurnished, available jan

THUNDERSLEY £825 pcm

Spacious 3 bedroom semi-detached bungalow with modern kitchen and modern bathroom, 3 bedrooms, lounge, double glazing, parking for 2, unfurnished

RAYLEIGH £850 pcm

Three bedroom semi detached bungalow in excellent location, large lounge/diner, brand new fitted kitchen, brand new bathroom, gas c.h., driveway for 2, unfurnished

LEIGH-ON-SEA £950 pcm

SUPERB SEMI DETACHED HOUSE OFFERING MANY FINE FEATURES, 3 GOOD SIZED BEDROOMS, NEWLY FITTED KITCHEN WITH APPLIANCES, LOUNGE/DINER, BATHROOM/W.C., CONSERVATORY, DECKED YARD, GAS CENTRAL HEATING, 3 OFF STREET PARKING SPACES, UNFURNISHED, HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

RAYLEIGH £950 pcm

Beautifully maintained semi-detached house, 3 bedrooms (2 large doubles), good sized lounge, sep. dining room, well fitted kitchen, luxury bathroom, cloakroom, gas c.h., lovely garden, must be viewed

RAYLEIGH £900 pcm

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- * Garage and off street parking



PITSEA MOUNT £950 pcm

- * Four bedroom detached house
- * Gas central heating
- * Three pce bathroom with corner bath



HADLEIGH £550 pcm

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Orders are accepted by the Publishers subject to the Standard Conditions agreed between the Newspaper Society and the Institute of Practitioners in Advertising. Save that:

1. Advertisements are accepted on the conditions that (a) descriptions relating to goods are accurate and in no way contravene the provisions of the Trade Descriptions Act 1968, and the Fair Trading Act 1973, and (b) the copy complies with the British Code of Advertising Practice. Advertisers are advised that certain facilities must conform to the Consumer Credit (Advertisements) Regulations 1980.

2. 'Classified' Advertisers offering goods or service of a business, commercial or trade nature will, at the discretion of the Publishers be deemed 'Trade Advertisers', and as such, must indicate that they are advertising themselves. A telephone number is an optional addition to these requirements and not an alternative.

To comply with the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order 1977, Trade Advertisers must make it clear that they are selling goods in the course of business either by content, format, size, place of sale or by other means, including words such as 'trade', 'dealer', 'agent', 'wholesaler', 'etc' etc. in the advertisement.

3. The Publishers accept no liability whatsoever for any loss or damage however caused arising out of:

(a) Any error, inaccuracy or omission in the printing or publishing of any advertisement;

(b) Any failure to publish an advertisement on the day / date or day / dates specified by the advertiser; or

(c) Any delay in forwarding or omission to forward replies to box numbers to the Advertiser.

4. The Publishers are entitled to cancel any advertisement if it is considered to be misleading.

5. Where shrapnel of advertisement occurs for whatever reason the advertisement will be charged to the nearest full centimetre. This will NOT apply to the full-page advertisements, which remain full pages even after shrinkage.

6. The Publishers reserve the right to reject an advertisement or to vary it in any way they deem fit, at any time before publication, whether or not the advertisement has already been accepted for publication.

7. Whilst every effort is made to minimise errors in advertisements, mistakes do sometimes occur. Advertisers or their agents should check their advertisements and inform us of any errors immediately. Responsibility cannot be accepted for more than one incorrect insertion. Typographical or minor changes, which do not affect the value of the advertisement, do not qualify for republication or alteration.

8. All group advertising rates, except for display, postage, payable by the advertisers subject to and include a 10% surcharge. Standard Board of Finance surcharge, payable by the advertisers Standards Authority.

9. All rates quoted are subject to VAT at the rate currently in force at the time the advertisement appears.

10. Should the rate for advertisements be altered the price for remaining insertions shall be revised accordingly or the publishers shall have the right to cancel the unexpired portion of the order.

11. The placing of an advertisement order will be deemed an acceptance of these conditions.

12. Legal facilities are granted at the discretion of the Company.

13. All accounts must be settled within the terms agreed by the Company and the Customer.

(1) Should an advertiser be in breach of the agreed terms, the publisher shall be entitled to levy a 10% surcharge on the value of the whole debt in respect of accounts with terms of 30 days, 30 days, 30 days, and any discounts or commissions that had been allowed will be reclaimed.

(2) Regular monthly accounts that are in breach of the agreed terms will pay an interest rate of 6% above the base bank of England base rate for each month that the account is in arrears and discounts or commissions that had been allowed will be reclaimed. Should Legal action be required the interest will be charged in accordance with the County Court Act 1984.

14. Anywhere an advertiser instructs / appoints an advertising agent to act on their behalf, the advertiser remains jointly and severally liable for payment in respect of any advertisement placed through that agent. For avoidance of doubt, the agent acts for the advertiser and not for the publisher with the agent being responsible for notifying the advertiser of this liability.

15. All quotations are given, preferentially in writing to the accounts department of the publisher, within 7 days of the invoice date.

16. All digital services are maintained in partnership with the publishers' hosting service providers. Every effort is made to ensure the continuity of these services, but some occasional technical downtime beyond the publishers control can occur. The publisher and its associated companies shall not be liable for any products and/or services of web services is delayed or prevented by any cause beyond the control of the publisher.

17. The Publisher may provide voucher copies for published advertisements in electronic form only subject to certain criteria. Further information is available on request.

18. The copyright of advertisements produced wholly or partially by the Publishers belong to the Publishers. Advertisers may not reproduce such advertisements without the Publishers' consent.

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Boxes are given for the receipt of bona fide answers and are not available for distribution of trade advertising material. Original testimonials, goods, cash, cash stamp or payments of any kind must not be enclosed. A box number and postal address are charged as part of the advertisement, i.e. Box No., centre address. There is a charge for forwarding replies.

Box numbers alone are not available for use in 'Trade' advertisements, other than Employment and Business Opportunities.

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All advertising must contain the name of the advertiser, phone number alone are not permitted.

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The service you have requested may require us to carry out a credit search at a credit-referencing agency, which will record the fact that a search has been made. We may need to share your information with other lenders and credit reference agencies. However, we will only use this information for credit decisions to make credit-granting decisions, and if necessary, for fraud prevention or to trace debtors.

Data controller will use your information for administration and analysis. We may share your information with other Tindle Group Newspaper companies or carefully selected third parties. We, or they, may send you offers from other good service providers which may be of interest to you. The information may also be provided by telephone or other reasonable means of communication. Calls may be recorded or monitored for training purposes.

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SOUTHEND On SEA



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SOUTHEND TWO BED G F FLAT£600 pcm

BENFLEET TWO BED F F FLAT£600 pcm

HOCKLEY TWO BED HOUSE.....£675 pcm

BENFLEET TWO BED F F FLAT£675 pcm

LEIGH on SEA THREE BED HOUSE....£800 pcm

HOCKLEY TWO BED BUNGALOW£850 pcm



£550 pcm
ONE BEDROOM APARTMENT
RAYLEIGH



£850 pcm
TWO BEDROOM BUNGALOW
HOCKLEY

Griffin



Lettings and Property Management

ONE BEDROOM

SOUTHEND: YORK ROAD UNFURNISHED, ONE BEDROOM, FIRST FLOOR FLAT, NEWLY DECORATED, HOUSING BENEFIT CONSIDERED. £425 pcm

SOUTHEND: YORK ROAD UNFURNISHED, ONE BEDROOM FIRST FLOOR FLAT, NEWLY REDECORATED, HOUSING BENEFIT CONSIDERED. £425 pcm

WESTCLIFF: CARLINGFORD DRIVE UNFURNISHED, ONE BEDROOM GROUND FLOOR FLAT, HOUSING BENEFIT CONSIDERED. £425 pcm

SOUTHEND: SOUTHCHURCH AVENUE UNFURNISHED, ONE BEDROOM, GROUND FLOOR FLAT. HOUSING BENEFIT WILL BE CONSIDERED. £425 pcm

WESTCLIFF: RAMUL Drive UNFURNISHED ONE BEDROOM GROUND FLOOR FLAT, TWO RECEPTION ROOMS, NEWLY DECORATED.. £500 pcm

WESTCLIFF: ST JOHNS ROAD UNFURNISHED, ONE BEDROOM GROUND FLOOR FLAT, OWN REAR GARDEN, SPERATE LOUNGE AND KITCHEN, AVAILABLE NOW. £500 pcm

WESTCLIFF ON SEA: PALMEIRA AVENUE UNFURNISHED, ONE BEDROOM, GROUND FLOOR FLAT, FITTED KITCHEN, COMMUNAL GARDEN, AVAILABLE NOW. £500 pcm

TWO BEDROOM

WESTCLIFF: ST HELENS ROAD UNFURNISHED, TWO BEDROOM FLAT, CLOSE TO MAINLINE STATION, HOUSING BENEFIT CONSIDERED. £575 pcm

SOUTHEND: HASTINGS ROAD UNFURNISHED, TWO DOUBLE BEDROOM GROUND FLOOR FLAT, HOUSING BENEFIT CONSIDERED. £575 pcm

WESTCLIFF ON SEA: VALKYRIE ROAD UNFURNISHED, TWO BEDROOM, GROUND FLOOR FLAT, ACCESS TO SHARED GARDEN, AVAILABLE NOW. £575 pcm

SOUTHEND: SOUTHCHURCH ROAD UNFURNISHED TWO BEDROOM SECOND FLOOR FLAT, CLOSE TO MAINLINE STATION, HOUSING BENEFIT CONSIDERED. £575 pcm

WESTCLIFF: WESTCLIFF PARK DRIVE UNFURNISHED, TWO BEDROOM FIRST FLOOR FLAT WITH GARDEN, CLOSE TO LOCAL AMENITIES, HOUSING BENEFIT CONSIDERED. £575 pcm

WESTCLIFF ON SEA: WEST ROAD UNFURNISHED, TWO BEDROOM, GROUND FLOOR FLAT, REAR GARDEN, AVAILABLE NOW. £600 pcm

WESTCLIFF: LYDFORD ROAD UNFURNISHED, TWO BEDROOM FIRST FLOOR FLAT,. £600 pcm

WESTCLIFF: WESTMINSTER DRIVE UNFURNISHED, TWO BEDROOM, FIRST FLOOR FLAT, AVAILABLE NOW. £625 pcm

WESTCLIFF: SILVERDALE AVENUE UNFURNISHED, TWO BEDROOM, FIRST FLOOR FLAT, OWN REAR GARDEN, AVAILABLE NOW. £650 pcm

WESTCLIFF: PALMEIRA AVENUE PART FURNISHED SPACIOUS TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT, SITUATED CLOSE TO THE ESTUARY, OFF STREET PARKING. £800 pcm

WESTCLIFF ON SEA: FLEETWOOD AVENUE UNFURNISHED, THREE BEDROOM, GROUND FLOOR FLAT, GAS CENTRAL HEATING, DOUBLE GLAZED, SHARED GARDEN. £850 pcm

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DIANE easygoing, GSOH, likes parties, meals out, pubs, nights in, TV, seeks male with similar interests. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 321765

63YR old lady, smoker, likes animals, days out, boot fairs, museums, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 321797

63YR old lady, smoker, likes animals, days out, boot fairs, museums, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 321797

FEMALE 33, brown hair, green eyes, 5ft 8ins, seeks male for fun, friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 367648

PETITE female, long brown hair, fit, flirty and fun, seeks similar male for uncomplicated fun friendship. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 376642

80YR old female, young at heart, 5ft 8ins, busy, seeks educated male for cuddles and maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 305951

LOVELY young at heart, blue eyed blonde, loves to dance seeks tall male who knows how to treat a lady. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 376368

PAKISTANI female, 35, single mum, slim, open minded, sociable, seeks companionhip, any age/race welcome. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 251315

ATTRACTIVE lady, nurse, many interests N/S, slim, seeks honest, sincere, N/S gent up to 65 with GSOH for friendship. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 363346

VIVACIOUS happy widow, very pretty, no ties seeks attractive younger male to get to know. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 376640

LAURA solvent, young 56, 5ft 2ins, easygoing, attractive, slim, seeks similar male, 56-65. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 363214

RITA 64, widow, own home, retired, smoker, slim, well dressed, likes dogs, nights in/out, music, seeks male to share life with. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 358515

CHEEKY girl, 32, loves having fun but has no one to share silliness with, seeks cheeky older chappie for playful relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 368522

RETRIED Nurse 70, 5foot7, Young looking, Brown hair, Smart with GSOH, NS seeks gent for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 353908

ATTRACTIVE brunette, green eyes, honest, caring, bubbly, likes live bands, meals out, seeks soul mate. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 351480

HAPPY sociable 47yr old white lady, seeks black male, 45-60 for LTR. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 347569

ANNA 61, 5ft 4ins, green eyes, fair hair, GSOH, NS, many interests, dancing, walks, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 321813

JUNE white lady 50, romantic, likes socialising, cooking, meals out, holidays, seeks romantic gent, 45-55 for LTR. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 321767

FULL figured female, attractive, 46, 5ft 2ins, size 18-20, seeks open-minded male for no strings fun times. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 352250

TWO mature but young at heart females, looking for double date to socialise with possibility of more. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 329292

FEMALE 40, young looking, brunette, slim, NS, likes cinema, pubs, meals out, seeks tall, genuine, caring, N/S male, 30-40 with GSOH for friendship, possible LTR. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 361132

FUNNY sensual young female, long black hair, seeks special male to enjoy fun nights out and romantic nights in. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 374944

CALL CHARGES*: 09054 calls cost £1.30 per min, 090523 calls cost £1.00 per min, 09069 calls cost £1.00 per min, 09067 calls cost £1.00 per min, 0779: 25p per min. Plus network extras. Mobiles will be considerably higher. **TEXT +SMS CHAT SERVICES**: 65125. After registration you will be sent 3 chat msg at a cost of £1.50 per msg then all subsequent msg received will be charged at £1.50/msg. Sent msg are free. Text services are moderated by experienced operators: 88833 texts £1.50 per msg. Mobiles must be MMS/Wap compatible in order to use these services. If not contact your Network Provider. To STOP from any text service text STOP to the shortcode. Text alerts are charged at £1.00 per week (2 x 50p blded msgs). To unsubscribe to text alerts, text DATING STOP to 63333. To cancel free match alerts, text STOP to 07781474042. For full T&Cs go to www.localdates.com.co.uk/. We reserve the right to contact individuals with promotional information. To opt out of all marketing messages text STOP to 61115. Customer Helpline (24/7) 0845 669 7570. **DATA PROTECTION:** Service provided by JMedia UK PO Box 563394, SE1 OWT, 0844 800 1188. We will collect the details you provide and may send you details of other services and events operated by us. We may pass your details onto this newspaper for marketing or PhonePayPlus for regulatory purposes. WC 071209

ATTRACTIVE

slim blonde, likes travel, music, animals, simple things, WLT/M decent male, 54-62 for lifetime commitment. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 359746

ATTRACTIVE slim, blonde, blue, 59, adventurous, seeks over 6ft, N/S black guy of similar age or younger to care about. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 354926

ATTRACTIVE happy go lucky lady, home after living abroad, no baggage, WLT/M liked minded male to share and cosy up lonely evenings. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 373440

JACKIE 5ft 2ins, dark hair, hazel eyes, petite, likes walks, pubs, animals, gardening, seeks male with similar interests. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 320745

SHEILA 64, homely, likes gardening, boot fairs, reading, walks, seeks similar male. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 320721

LADY 63, smoker, likes nights in, cuddles, TV, animals, hobbies, reading, seeks male, 62-64. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 319799

TONY 23, 5ft 8ins, fit, seeks female for fun and friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 321887

WIDOWER late 50's, honest, solvent, likes travel, meal out, seeks attractive female, 50-60 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 328602

HONEST genuine, reliable guy, young 60, attractive, 6ft, medium build, many interests, seeks genuine, attractive female for friendship plus. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 325210

JOHN 71, widower, OHAC, likes holladays, meal out, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 343912

SUSAN slim, modern dress, 61, likes meals out, country pubs, holidays, music, reading, TV, seeks male, 61-64 for genuine, friendly, seeks male. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 319235

LADY 54, medium build, 4ft 11ins, black hair, romantic, loving, affectionate, down to earth, GSOH, seeks N/S English girl with GSOH to share good things with. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 319129

ATTRACTIVE professional, 60yr old black lady, GSOH, own home, seeks English male with GSOH. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 318785

BLONDE female, 59, medium build, seeks friendly, N/S Scotsman, likes travel, love, and good times together. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 309763

SANDY young looking, 61, size 14, nice personality, easygoing, likes theatre, pubs, days out, reading, walks, seeks male, 56-68 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 359134

BRIAN 63, lonely, likes sports, films, meals out, seeks likeminded female for company. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 364362

JOHN 35, trapped in 60yr old body, 5ft 7ins, likes travel, socialising, laughter, seeks similar female. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 359650

DAVE 65, active, widower, seeks intelligent, voluptuous female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 359134

SINGLE working male, likes meals out, nights out, cinema, clubs, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 321861

MALE 47, single dad, likes socialising, nights out, travel, old cars, architecture, history, walks, career minded, seeks female with GSOH for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 317001

TONY hardworking, tall, muscular, tattooed, likes nights out, seeks female for fun and friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 321837

ANGIE 46, nurse, single mum, 5ft 5ins, medium build, GSOH, kind, caring, likes pubs, clubs, seeks genuine, honest male. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 314047

DEBBIE 5ft 9ins, likes reading, walks, nights in/out, seeks tall male, 45-60. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 317001

MAL 47, single dad, likes socialising, nights out, travel, old cars, architecture, history, walks, career minded, seeks female for fun, nights in/out, friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 321837

NICE looking, 4ft 6yr old male, seeks female, 25-70 for fun. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 369480

STEVE 53, divorced, builder, likes sports, swimming, seeks easygoing female for meals out, nights in/out, friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 321795

5FT 9INS female, likes walks, reading, nights in/out, seeks tall male, 40-60 for friendship and conversation. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 314047

ATTRACTIVE slim female, 53, bubbly, likes meals out, pubs, cinema, seeks solvent, caring, genuine, honest male, 47 plus for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 320527

LADY slim, blonde, GSOH, 60's, WLT/M, gent for companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 320401

DONNA 42, slim, blonde, attractive, sincere, genuine, GSOH, likes socialising, cinema, meals out, holidays, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 319225

RON 62, 6ft, OHAC, genuine, caring, loving, likes gardening, cooking, coast, walks, theatre, cinema, seeks similar aged female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 317039

ANGIE 59, brown hair, hazel eyes, 5ft 2ins, likes reading, walks, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 320527

5FT 10INS slim male, N/S, 5ft 7ins, medium build, blond, smoker, seeks loyal lady. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 321565

47YR OLD male, 6ft 5ins, keeps fit, travel, seeks professional partner for fun times and relationship. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 345808

ANGIE 59, brown hair, hazel eyes, 5ft 2ins, likes reading, walks, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 321565

5FT 9INS female, 59, 5ft 7ins, likes walking, reading, likes walks, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0905 436 0274 Box No: 321505

men seeking



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Call to retrieve replies
0905 436 0274*

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TO SEND IN PHOTOS:
Once you have placed your advert and received your confirmation text, simply text your full photo along with your 6 digit mailbox number (space) 4 digit pin number under your photo, to **0779 366 3633**. Or send by email to: support@mediauk.co.uk with your Mailbox & pin number. Remember you are 6 times more likely to receive replies if you submit a photograph!

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Call **0844 800 1188**
Monday - Friday 9 to 5
or alternatively, you can email us at
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gay seeking

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Yellow Leisure

www.yellowadvertiser-today.co.uk

our verdict

You get a special ticket when you go into the British Music Experience called a Smarticket and you have to swipe it on the displays so you can collect the information you are looking at. There was a dance booth where you could do different dances and a map on which we found lots of information about our local area. We listened to lots of music and went into a room which had screens around it that made you feel like you were at a big gig.

Joseph Chambers, 11

I liked the British Music Experience because there were lots of things to do and in the middle there was a map where you could search the whole of the country and look at what music was set in different places. There were also lots of instruments that you could play in different rooms around the museum. Me and mum did this dance routine and chose to do the disco dancing one then laughed when we watched it afterwards. It was funny.

Joshua Chambers, 8

fact file

DIRECTIONS: The British Music Experience is in the O2's exhibition space, known as the O2 bubble. The O2 is just a short walk from North Greenwich station in London.
OPENING TIMES: The experience is open from 10am to 8pm from Monday to Sunday (last entry at 6.30pm). It is open every day of the year except December 24, 25, 26 and 31, as well as January 1.
ENTRANCE: It costs £15 for adults and £12 for children and concessions to get in to the British Music Experience, while children under the age of five get in for free. Family tickets, admitting two adults and two children, are available for £40.
FURTHER INFORMATION: Call 020 8463 2000 or visit www.britishmusicexperience.com

Bring music to life

LIZ WADE and her two boys discover musical history on their visit to the British Music Experience at the O2

If you want to sing in a sound booth, dance in a studio or explore a musical map of the country, then head to the British Music Experience.

The venue isn't just a museum of Britain's music history, it's an interactive experience that encourages visitors to explore whatever music they like.

The exhibition, at the O2, covers 60 years of British music history and has a wide range of memorabilia including everything from handwritten lyrics and famous outfits to instruments.

Its collection includes Spice Girl dresses, David Bowie's Ashes to Ashes clown suit and Ziggy Stardust costume, a vintage Amy Winehouse dress and even Noel Gallagher's Union Jack guitar.

While there are a range of things to look at, there is far more to see and explore through its interactive experience which allows you to unlock a massive collection of music and media recordings.

Its cutting-edge audio visual technology allows each visitor to use a Smarticket, which also allows them to select and keep their favourite content.

The more you touch the Smarticket sensor points in the museum, the more music you can collect to listen to from your MyBME account online when you get home.

The idea is pure genius and allows you to save the highlights of your visit, and even a recording of your own dance routine.

The whole venue is very much interactive so on a first glance around, you may think it slightly

small. However, the more you explore, the more you discover.

The exhibition's Edge Zones take you on a journey through time as you explore different eras from 1945 to the present day, and even into the future.

Each era is packed with memorabilia, music and film clips, and even information on big events in the news at the time, which help to take you back.

You can also track the trends through 60 years of music history and learn about British music's influence on art, fashion and politics, and flick through virtual record collections.

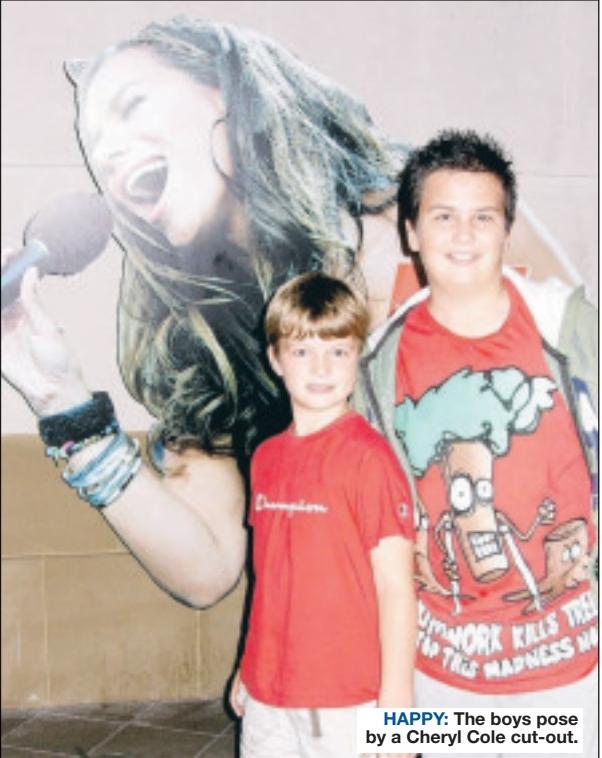
The centre of the museum, known as The Core, houses other interactive displays including the Dance the Decades booth, which allows you to learn one of 12 dances from the past 70 years before making a recording of your moves, and then playing them back again.

Only Josh was up for a dance with his mum and we decided to opt for the disco dancing.

We picked up the moves from our virtual dance instructor and recorded our own routine, then laughed hysterically as we watched our 'out of time' efforts to keep up.

Another great interactive display in The Core was the 'Where It's At' map of the country, which allowed us to find out what musical delights have happened in and around our home town and further afield.

The boys loved finding out about events that had happened in Britain's music history, from the birthplaces of pop artists, to the locations of festivals.



HAPPY: The boys pose by a Cheryl Cole cut-out.

vocal booth.

Our visit came to an amazing end thanks to the venue's 'The Beat Goes On' exhibit, which allowed us to feel what it would have been like being in the crowd of a legendary gig.

We stood in a room surrounded by screens on three sides and imagined being part of the crowd at a classic performance from the likes of The Stones, Bowie, Led Zeppelin and Oasis.



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 - 19th February - Yorkshire (Frank Sinatra Tribute weekend) - 4 days - £189
 - 22nd February - Folkestone - 5 days - £149
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Tuesday 22nd 9.30 - 8.00	Wednesday 30th 9.30 - 6.00
Wednesday 23rd 9.30 - 8.00	New Years Eve 8.00 - 2.00
Christmas Eve 8.00 - 4.00	New Years Day - CLOSED
Christmas Day - CLOSED	Saturday 2nd Jan 9.00 - 4.00

what's on

- Knowles (1871-1956), 7.30 for 8pm start, visitors welcome £1.50 includes refreshments. 01702 354135.
- Special Christmas Farmers Market, Barleylands Farm, Barleylands Road, Billericay, 8.30am-12.30pm, 01268 290215.
 - Social Ballroom Dancing, Paddocks Hall, Long Road, Canvey, 07748 707122.
 - Family Pantomime, Billericay Arts Association, The Fold, 72 Landown Road, Billericay, 2.30pm, tickets £7 children, £9 adults. 01277 659286.
 - Dad's and Kids Club, The Warehouse Centre, 7 Brook Road, Rayleigh, 10.30am-1.30pm, free admission, games, activities, arts and crafts, for boys and girls 5-17 years with their fathers and father figures. 01268 779100.
 - Different Strokes Exercise Class, St Peter's Church Hall, Eastbourne Grove, Southend, for those who have had a stroke, every Saturday 2.30pm. 01702 465801.
 - Meeting, Brush Strokes Art Group, Highlands Methodist Church, Leigh, Saturday mornings, for membership details call Georgina 01702 301187.
 - Jazz Workshop, Southend Jazz Co-op, St Michael's Church Hall (rear car park entrance), Leigh Road/Mount Avenue, Leigh, every Saturday 10am-1pm, £5 per session (concessions available).
 - Art and Crafts for Kids, every Saturday in Southend, 10am-noon, from ages 7 and above, call Marie 01702 329408.
 - Modern Sequence Dancing, St Andrew's Church Hall, Electric Avenue, Westcliff, every Saturday 7-9.30pm, Henry 01702 293794.
 - Saturday Morning Club, Inter-Church Caring for the Elderly and Disabled, Westcliff UR Church Hall, top of Kings Road, every Saturday 10am-noon, entertainment provided by choirs, soloists and musicians, refreshments, 'Bring and Win' raffle, admission free, drivers required please call 01702 478691.
 - Christmas Concert, The Friends of Holy Trinity Rayleigh, given by Rayleigh Parish Church Choir and the Nine Nomine Chor from Southend High School for Boys, 7.30pm, refreshments available, tickets £6 from Rayleigh Parish Church Office or call Mike Handford 01268 775380.
 - Charity Event, The Great Berry Residents Club, Laindon, Next Of Kin presents a Christmas Charity party, all profits to Make-A-Wish, 7pm entry free but donations expected throughout, live music and raffles.
 - Christmas Concert, Rayleigh Methodist Church, Eastwood Road, Rayleigh, 'A Christmas Carol - In Words and Music', 7.30pm, tickets £8 (concessions £7), call 01268 785273 or on door.
 - Quiz Night, New Post Inn, Gardiners Way, off Gardiners Lane South, (access either via Cranes Farm Road or Mayflower exit A127), 8pm, £3.50 per person, in aid of Guide Dogs for the Blind Association, bring own nibbles, bar available, to reserve a table call 01268 524086.
 - Illustrated Talk, Southend Photographic Society, The Guild Hall, Hill Road, Southend, 'The Edwardian Eye of Andrew Pitcairn-
- afternoons in Thundersley, beginners welcome, details 01268 779174.
- Short Mat Bowls, Wickford Bowling Club, 1.30-4.30pm, beginners welcome, details Pat Stoneham 01268 459813.
 - Meeting, Pintalls Social Club, off Rectory Road, Crest Avenue, Pitsea, bingo every Monday 1-4pm, we also arrange holidays and outings during the year, 01268 555952.
 - Club 60, Floor 3, Queensway House, Essex Street, Southend, various activities every weekday, tea bar, non-members welcome, £1.50 day pass, 01702 613562.
 - Short Mat Bowls, Prittlewell Bowls Club, Priory Park, Southend, two mats available, 4 sessions a day, Monday to Friday, details Ray 01268 777666.
 - Come and try Lawn Bowls, VCA Riverview Bowls Club, Mopsies Park, Basildon, beginners very welcome, all equipment supplied, any Monday 5.30-7.30pm, or Tuesday 10am-noon, enquiries Dave Tandy 01268 762754.
 - Whist, George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for over 50s, every Monday 10am-noon, details 01268 465854.
 - Senior Citizens Club, Ghyllgrove Centre, Butneys, every Monday 1.30-3.30pm, make friends, bingo, trips. 01268 293995.
 - Pensioners Stall, York Road Outdoor Market, Southend, all tops, skirts and trousers all at £1 each, every Monday and Thursday 8am-2pm.
 - Scrabble Club, Wesley Methodist Church Hall, Elm Road, Leigh Broadway, (opposite police station), friendly club, all standards welcome, every Monday 7-10pm, £2.50, just turn up or call 01268 727915.
 - Learn Irish Set Dancing, St Helen's Church Hall, Westcliff, every Monday 8.30pm, further details Margaret 07711 517439.
 - Short Mat Bowls, George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for over 50s, every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Fridays 2-4pm.
- Monday, December 14**
- Showing 'Postcards from Southend', Eastwood Brush and Palette Art Group, Southend Central Library, 1st Floor Gallery, a collection of over 70 postcards of Southend and area, in watercolour, pencil, ink and acrylic, for sale at £1 each, enquiries 01702 528167, 14-31 December.
 - Meeting, Epilepsy Support Group, George Hurd Centre, Basildon, 7.45-10pm, various topics and activities, Carole 01268 270697.
 - Southend Stroke Club, St Mary's Church Hall, Prittlewell, 'Carols and mince pies with Eastwood Chorale', 8-10pm, all stroke survivors, their relatives and carers welcome, transport may be available, further details Chris 01702 710714.
 - Meeting, Benfleet Camera Night, St George's Church Hall, Rushbottom Lane, Benfleet, 'Christmas Bash' social evening, 8-10pm, visitors welcome.
 - Jazz, Oakwood, Rayleigh Road, Eastwood, Ron Spack's Jazzet featuring Johnny Withers vibraphone/Jim Naylor guitar 8.30pm. 01702 512819.
 - Leigh on Sea Caledonian Dancers, St James Church Hall, Elmsleigh Drive, Leigh, Mondays 7.30-10.15pm, new members welcome, first night free. 01702 354414.
 - Southend Chess Club, Ambleside Social Club, Ambleside Drive, Southend, Mondays 7.30pm, new members welcome, beginners or experienced players. 01702 345902.
 - Short Mat Bowls, Monday/Tuesday
- Tuesday, December 15**
- Mainstream Jazz, Spike's Place, Hadleigh Hall, Rectory Road, Hadleigh, 'Xmas Party' Jo Fooks, Matt Wates plus Geoff Eales Trio, 8pm, booking advisable. 01245 420475.
 - Discussion on the Emergence of Maîtreya the World Teacher, Balmoral Centre, Salisbury Avenue, Southend, 7.30-9.30pm, admission free.
 - Meeting, Highlands Forum, Highlands Methodist Church Hall, (rear of the church in Olive Avenue), Leigh, 'Christmas Concert' Forum Choir, 2.30pm, new members and visitors welcome.

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what's on

- Art Class, Leigh Sailing Club, every Tuesday 1.30-3.30pm, beginners watercolour drawing class, 01702 307173.
- Folk Music, The Hoy at Anchor Folk Club, The Ship, New Road, Old Leigh, "Dan Small", 8pm, 01702 715111.
- Singles Social Group, meets Halfway House Pub, Eastern Esplanade, Southend sea front, age group 50-65, every Tuesday 8pm, 07752 613021.
- New and Nearly New Stall, outside St Martin's Church, Town Centre, Basildon, facing the gardens (if wet in church foyer), every Tuesday 10am-noon.
- Football Sessions for girls for years 3, 4, 5 and 6 at Frysens Recreation Ground, a community project supported by Basildon Council, £1 drop in sessions every Tuesday 5.30-6.30pm, in association with Leigh Celtic Girls FC, further details Paul 07882 456558.
- Mum2Mum, Breastfeeding support group, St Michael's Church Annex, Sir Walter Raleigh Drive, Rayleigh, Tuesdays 10.30am-noon, pregnant mums welcome, further details 07801 097605.
- Table Tennis, Warehouse Centre, 7 Brook Road, Rayleigh, Tuesdays 7.30-10.30pm, all welcome, £3.50 a session, 01268 779100.
- Table Top Sale, Outpatients Foyer, Southend Hospital, Tuesdays 9.30am-3pm, Breath Easy Southend, helping support people with lung problems, 01702 258661.
- Meeting, Just Good Friends Friendship Club, South Benfleet Social Club, every Tuesday 8.15pm, singles club for 50 plus, divorced, widow or widower, further details call Maureen 01268 692998.
- Card Making Classes, The Seniors' Club, Hullbridge Day Centre, Windermere Avenue, Hullbridge, Tuesdays 7-9pm, all materials supplied, further details 01702 233098.
- Walking Club, Phoenix Striders, meet 7pm Marksman Chase Sports Centre, fuhr walking depart 7.15pm, every Tuesday and Thursday, Gwyn 01268 415469.
- Social Tea Dance, Ashingdon Memorial Hall, Ashingdon Road, Ashingdon, Tuesdays 2-4pm, 01702 230480.
- Social Tea Dance, St Cedds, Bridgewater Drive, Westcliff, 1.45pm, 01268 770772.
- NCT Bumps and Babies, a social group for expectant and new mums, Langham Hall, Langham Crescent, Billericay, every Tuesday 1.20-3pm, Stella 01268 452781, you don't have to be an NCT member.
- Depression: Self Help Group, every Tuesday 8.30-9.30pm, and Thursdays 12.30-2pm, we are a very successful and caring group, Michael 01268 527283.
- Vange Tots, The Vange Community Centre, Vange Hill Drive, Vange, every

- Tuesday 9.30-11.30am, admission £1, snack and drinks provided for all, further details 01268 498642.
- Shoebox Flagship, Rainbow Children's Centre, Frans School, Constance Way, Shoebury, every Tuesday 1.30-3.30pm, health visiting team offering activities, advice and support for parents with babies and children aged up to 5 years, 01702 577656.
- Tuesday Luncheon Club, Inter-Church Caring for the Elderly and Disabled, Avenue Baptist Church Hall, Milton Road, Westcliff, for people living alone or with their carers, 01702 478691/525141/340617.
- Wednesday, December 16**
- Barn Dance, Grand Ceilidh Club, Southend Rugby Football Club, Sumpers Way, Southend, live music from Tyros, 8.30pm, free entry on first visit, 07818 622822.
- Over 50s Session, Warehouse Centre, 7 Brook Road, Rayleigh, Wednesdays and Thursdays 2-4pm, badminton and short mat bowls, session price £3.00 includes refreshments and use of equipment, 01268 779100.
- Played Bowls Before? Come and try it at FS&S Club, Gardeners Close, Basildon, all weather green, free coaching given, regular club mornings, call Charlie 01277 623752.
- Rayleigh Country Market, WI Hall, Elmbridge Drive, Leigh, ballroom, Latin and sequence, every Thursday 2-4.15pm, 01702 216726.
- Children's Futsal Football Sessions, Marksman Chase, Basildon, Wednesdays 5-6pm, £1, further details Paul 07882 456558.
- Breastmasts, The Cambridge Road Children's Centre, Cambridge Road, Southend, every Wednesday 10am-noon, advice, support and social group for breastfeeding mums and babies, further details 07837 236656.
- Salsa, George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for over 50s, every Wednesday 11.30am-12.30pm, no partner required, 01268 468584.
- Sequence Dancing, Wickford Community Association, Market Road, Wickford, every Wednesday 2-4pm, 01268 735457.
- Parent and Toddler Group, Caterpillars, Chalkwell Park Methodist Church, Eastwood Lane South, (off Southbourne Grove), Westcliff, 9.30-11.30am, 01702 478343.
- Parent and Toddler Group, Honeybees, Laindon Community Centre, Aston Road, High Lane, Laindon, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9.30am and 10.30am, 01268 449431/07944 983734.
- Parent and Toddler Group, Buttercup

- Club, Scout Hall, Ellensbrook Close, Leigh, 9.30am and 11am, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 01702 712150.
- Parent and Toddler Group, Little Angels, Steeple View Memorial Hall, Laindon, Wednesdays 1-3pm.

Thursday, December 17

- Coffee and Cake, Warehouse Centre, Brook Road, Rayleigh, (Conference Room 1), 2pm, feeling lonely, join us.
- Illustrated Talk, Westcliff United Reformed Church Hall, Kings Road, Westcliff, 7.30pm, 'Conservation in Essex' by Cliff Moore, £1.50 donation, including refreshments.
- Art Class, Westcliff United Reform Church, Kings Road, Westcliff, 10am-noon, 01702 615475.
- Ballroom Dancing, Lourdes Hall, Marguerite Drive, Leigh, 8-10.30pm, newcomers welcome, particularly single people looking for company, music and dancing to suit all.
- Ladies Football, Futsal Fitness Sessions, Frysens Recreation Ground, for ladies wanting to get fit and have fun, community project supported by Basildon Council, £1 drop in sessions every Thursday 6.30-7.30pm, ages 16-60, Paul 07882 456558.
- Tea Dance, St James' Church Hall, Elmbridge Drive, Leigh, ballroom, Latin and sequence, every Thursday 2-4.15pm, 01702 216726.
- The Becky Lou Craft Club, every Thursday in Hockley, Debbie Nind 01702 206910.
- Sales Table, Outpatients Foyer, Southend Hospital, every Thursday 7.30am-3.30pm, toys, books, bric-a-brac, etc, further details 01702 586697.
- Buddies Club for single over 50s, Anchor Pub, Essex Way, Benfleet, varied programme includes outings, dances, ten pin bowling, every Thursday 8.30pm, 01268 282143.
- Short Mat Bowls, Willows Park, James Hornsby School, Leinster Road, Laindon, every Thursday 7.30pm, first 3 weeks free, details 01277 625027.
- Whist Drive, Our Lady of Lourdes Church Hall, Marguerite Drive, Leigh, every Thursday 1.45pm, entry £1.20.
- Try Carpet Bowls, The Salvation Army Hall, Elm Road, Leigh, every Thursday 2-4pm, £2.
- Drama/Social Club, working for Animal Charities, St George's Hall (near Tarpots), Rushbottom Lane, Benfleet, new members needed, no acting experience required, good social activities, meet every Thursday 1.30-3.30pm, 01268 697357.
- Rubber Bridge, 1st Floor, United Reformed Church, Kings Road, Leigh, 7pm, admission

- £2, beginners welcome, further details Tony 01702 520993 or Mike 01702 710217.
- Meeting, Billericay Art Club, Church Hall, Great Burstead, 8pm, new members of every ability welcome, further details 01277 656877.
- Art on Sea Painting Group, St Peter's, Eastbourne Grove, Westcliff, every Thursday 1.15-3.15pm, 01702 329408.

Friday, December 18

- Carol Concert, St Martin's Church, Basildon, Basildon Choral Society brings Christmass Cheer, Carols and Readings, with the children of Kingswood School, Basildon, 7.45pm, tickets £9 from 01268 450421.
- Watercolour Class, Leigh Sailing Club, Old Leigh, 10.15am-12.15pm and 1.30-3.30pm, details 01702 307173.
- Drama Classes, Helen O'Grady Drama Academy, The Stables, Chalkwell Park Drive, Leigh, not a stage school, designed to increase children's life skills, Fridays after school, to enrol call Dina 01245 328680.
- Live Music, Riga Music Bar, Southend, 'Eddie and The Hot Rods' plus support.
- Bargain Box Open, Pastoral Centre, St Martin's Church, Basildon (Church walk near Marks and Spencer), every Friday 10am-noon, good quality/nearly new clothes, bric-a-brac, books, videos etc, tea/coffee, all welcome, no entrance charge.

- Come and try Diving, Gloucester Park Swimming Pool, every Friday 8-10pm, learn to scuba dive, further details Paul 07802 643734.
- Table Tennis, Marksman Chase Sports Centre, Basildon, every Friday 2pm, £2.50 per session.
- Evening of Clairvoyance, St Edmunds Hall, St Edmunds Close, (off Pantile Avenue), Southend, every Friday 8pm, healing from 7pm.
- Clairvoyance, Hockey Old Fire Station, Southend Road, Hockley, (next to Spa Pub), visiting mediums, every Friday 7.30-9.30pm, admission £3, including refreshments.
- Southend Chess Club, Thorpe Bay Bridge Club, The Old School House, Southchurch Boulevard, Southend, Fridays 7.30pm, new members welcome, beginners or experienced players, 01702 345902.
- Chess, Cedar Centre, Castle Road, Rayleigh, every Friday, 7.30pm onwards, all ages and abilities welcome, further details Dereck Stockings 01268 772923.
- Modern Sequenece Tea Dance, St James' Church Hall, Elmbridge Drive, Leigh, every Friday 1.45-3.45pm, details Henry 01702 239374.

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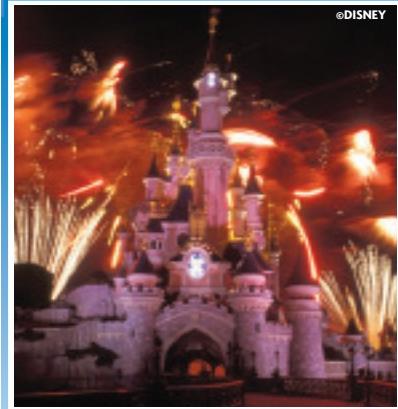
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Photo: Maitreya's miraculous appearance in Nairobi on 11 June 1988

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eating out

Enjoy authentic Thai food in Billericay this Christmas

BILLERICAY'S Thai House, the only authentic Thai restaurant in the town, has acquired an enviable reputation since it opened in 2002.

The High Street restaurant is on the first floor - but worth the climb.

It is light and airy with authentic pictures and woodcarvings adding an oriental touch.

The menu, though, is pure delicious Thai with a mouthwatering selection of meat, chicken, duck, fish and sea food as well as a good choice of vegetarian dishes.

The restaurant offers a special lunch deal for just £5 from Monday to Saturday, noon to 2.30pm.

Customers can choose from a wide selection of 20 different dishes including chicken, beef, prawns, mixed seafood and fish.

You take your pick from green or red curry with chicken in coconut milk and sliced bamboo shoots garnished with Thai basil, and fresh chilli, or sliced chicken breast with ginger, onion, spring onion and mushroom or sweet and sour fish or prawns, tomato, pineapple and red and green pepper.

You could also try Som Tam, a Thai spicy salad, Massumun Kai, a sweet chicken curry, and a range of different starters including Thai dumplings.

From Sunday to Thursday diners



can enjoy a four-course meal for just £9.95 per person, or £5 for children under 12, with a mixed starter and a choice of chicken, beef, prawns, mixed seafood and duck.

Thai House provides a full range of sweets and a comprehensive drinks list, as well as friendly, efficient and polite service.

It has also just extended its wine list offering customers an extensive

choice of white, rosé and red. Its top wine list offers a choice of the best wines from a variety of places including New Zealand, Australia, Chile and Italy.

The restaurant is now taking bookings for pre-Christmas meals, when it will be serving a set menu for £17 per person.

It is also offering a vegetarian option for £13 per person.

Anyone interested is urged to call

staff for further information.

* The Thai House, at 21B High Street, Billericay, is open seven days a week, including bank holidays, from 12 noon to 2.30pm and 5.30pm to 11pm, Sunday to Thursday, and from noon to 2.30pm, and 5.30pm to 11pm on Friday and Saturday.

Phone 01277 632424 or 01277 637103 for more information or to make a reservation.

Thai House

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Fully Air conditioned & Fully Licensed

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Sunday 10th January 2010



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Advertisement feature

EATING out is still affordable at Slassors, thanks to its new deals and its long established bring your own wine policy.

The restaurant, on Eastern Esplanade, offers a value-for-money way to enjoy the finest international and English cuisine.

Its owners, Martin Taylor and Nina Chopping, have introduced all day breakfasts for £4.95 - £3.95 for pensioners - as well as a range of affordable light lunches including prawn cocktail, grilled goat's cheese, home-cooked gammon ham, roast beef and ploughmans.

Its ever-popular breakfasts are a must at a value-for-money price of just £4.95. The good quality breakfasts, with meat from a local butcher, includes two slices of bacon, sausage, egg, mushrooms, grilled tomato, beans and toast.

Slassors has a policy of bringing your own wine to accompany your meal with just a 95p corkage charge, making it an affordable evening out.

Slassors, which uses only the freshest ingredients, also serves an à la carte menu with mouth-watering dishes including duck, lamb, steaks and fish. Sauces are a speciality, along with their homemade sweets.

All of Slassors' food is freshly cooked to order and staff are happy to prepare food for any dietary needs.

The long established restaurant is an ideal setting for diners who want a relaxing evening lingering over a meal, as it operates a nice-and-easy policy where customers can enjoy their table for the whole of the evening.

Slassors is the ideal place for festive celebrations and staff are now taking bookings for pre-Christmas meals. Its festive menu costs £25.50 per person for a four-course evening meal.

They are also taking bookings for Christmas Day, as well as for New Years Eve, when guitarist, Lee Pankhurst, will be providing the entertainment.

Anyone interested is urged to call for further information and to book early to avoid disappointment.

The restaurant, which serves soft drinks but does not have a drinks licence, is open from Tuesday to Saturday for breakfast, lunch and evening meal. It is also open on Sunday from 9am to 3pm.

It is also available to book for parties - for a minimum of 15 people - both during the week and at the weekend.

For further information or to book a table call Slassors on 01702 614880.

eating out

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eating out

Advertisement feature

First-class Indian dining

AN AWARD-WINNING chef, excellent service and delicious food all add to the first-class dining experience on offer at an Indian restaurant in Basildon.

Asia Spice is now firmly back on the map as one of the area's best Indian restaurants, after rising from the ashes of a devastating fire.

It was forced to close in 2003 when the blaze gutted the entire premises, and it was not until three years later that work began on rebuilding it.

Asia Spice finally re-opened its doors in July 2007, following a total refurbishment.

It is now dedicated once again to exceeding customers' expectations by serving only the finest quality, freshly prepared dishes.

The restaurant, run by a family with extensive experience in the industry, prides itself on its total dining experience.

Its chef, Malik Miah, a national and regional winner of the 2002/2003 Curry Awards, serves a range of dishes from the entire Indian Sub-Continent.

Offers include a four-course Mid Week Special every Wednesday, including a starter, main meal, side dish, and a choice of rice or nan, for just £10 for adults and £5 for children (under the age of 12).

A special children's menu is also available offering a range of dishes for £5.50.

Its Sunday Buffet, available from noon to 11pm, gives diners the



chance to eat as much as they like for just £8.95 for adults and £5.50 for children under the age of 12.

The restaurant holds a variety of entertainment evenings and tribute nights. Up-and-coming tribute nights include Tina Turner on Thursday, December 10, and Robbie Williams on Thursday, December 17.

Asia Spice is now taking bookings for pre-Christmas meals for which it will be serving a special Christmas party menu.

The evenings, which offer a choice of either a buffet or menu, are ideal for celebrations with friends, family or work colleagues.

Asia Spice will be serving a special four-course menu on Christmas Day, from 12.30-5.30pm. The meal, which includes a round of drinks, costs just £19.95 per person.

Its New Year's Eve party night, which includes DJ entertainment, also offers fantastic value-for-money at just £19.95 per person including a four-course meal.

The air conditioned restaurant, which can seat up to 90 people, is fully licensed and has a large car park for customers.

Its takeaway service offers a choice of either free home delivery, or a 10 per cent discount on orders that are collected.

Asia Spice, at 2 Adams Business Centre, Cranes Farm Road, is open from noon to 2.30pm and from 6-11.30pm, seven days a week.

To make a reservation, call 01268 523526 or 01268 523532.

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Advertisement feature

Party in the Parlour this Christmas

EVERYTHING from party nights to special banquets are on offer this Christmas, at the largest Indian restaurant in Essex.

Tandoori Parlour, at 61-63 Hart Road, Thundersley, is the perfect location for festive celebrations, thanks to its outstanding menu or buffet deals as well as a doubles for singles drinks promotion throughout the Christmas period.

If you are looking for somewhere to enjoy a pre-Christmas meal with your friends, family or work colleagues, then why not head for Tandoori Parlour. As well as its outstanding food and promotions, the restaurant also promises your table for the night, as well as DJ entertainment, hats, crackers and party poppers. Every night of the week, from November 27, there will be a disco and karaoke with resident DJ on both floors, for just £11.95 per person, including starters, main course and dessert, or buffet, with both Indian and English cuisine.

The top restaurant is also open throughout Christmas including Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Years Eve and New Years Day, offering top food and entertainment, as well as a range of deals including free food for children under eight.

Its Christmas Eve Electric Party Night is ideal for all the family,

with a four course meal or buffet. The evening, which includes DJ entertainment, costs just £14.95 per person, or £7.95 for children aged from eight to 12. Youngsters under the age of eight eat for free, and you will also enjoy complimentary hats, crackers and novelties.

Its Christmas Day Banquet, from noon to 5pm, includes both traditional Christmas cuisine and Indian food. Guests, who can enjoy their table for the whole day, can choose to enjoy a four course traditional Christmas dinner or an Indian meal, or enjoy both delicious cuisines if they wish. The Christmas Day meal costs £24.95 for adults and £12.95 for children under the age of 12.

The restaurant's Boxing Day Buffet is outstanding value with diners enjoying a silver served starter before helping themselves to as much food as they like from a choice of more than 50 dishes. The buffet evening, which runs from 5.30pm to 11pm and is free to children under the age of eight, costs £11.95 per person, or £5.95 for children aged from eight to 12.



Its popular New Years Eve Grand Gala Night promises to be an evening to remember as you dance the night away into the early hours. The special evening, which includes entertainment from a Scottish Piper and Drummer, as well as a top radio DJ, also offers a four-course special gourmet meal and free champagne to see in the New Year.

Its New Years Day special silver served buffet, which will be marking the first day of 2010 in style, is free for children under the age of eight, and just £12.95 for adults

and £6.95 for children aged eight to 12.

Tandoori Parlour, which can seat more than 400 people, has outstanding facilities including a Crystal Room, a cocktail bar, dance floor and stage area.

The restaurant, which offers a takeaway service, is also fully air conditioned and licensed, and has full disabled facilities as well as a large car park opposite.

For further information or to make a reservation call Tandoori Parlour on 01268 793786 or 01268 793877.

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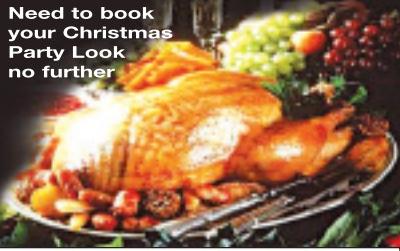
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eating out**Great views and food at
the Lancaster restaurant**

DINERS at a new restaurant and cafe are enjoying a unique setting with panoramic views across an airfield.

The Lancaster, situated on Southend Airport's Eastern Perimeter Road, opened its doors last month and has been delighting diners ever since.

Its vast menu and extensive opening hours mean it's the perfect place to go whether you are looking for a hearty breakfast, a healthy lunch, or a three-course evening meal.

What's more, The Lancaster also boasts a bar area where customers are welcome to enjoy a drink without having to sit down for a meal.

The Lancaster's menu is vast and is complimented by a specials board, which changes frequently for the benefit of diners.

It serves a wide range of English and continental cuisine, and all of its dishes are freshly prepared on the premises.

It has everything from full English breakfasts in the morning, to mussels, liver and bacon, and even Sunday roasts.

Its amazing views across Southend airfield give diners the opportunity to enjoy a wonderful meal, while watching planes and helicopters take off and land.

Its food, panoramic views and



friendly service are a recipe for success, which is complimented by its owner's extensive experience in the catering industry.

Add to this the restaurant's comfortable surroundings, thanks to a total refurbishment from its kitchen right through to its seating area, and you have a total dining experi-

ence like no other. The Lancaster, which is fully licensed and has ample free parking for customers, is the ideal venue for anything from a quiet meal for two, to a special celebration including pre-Christmas meals.

The restaurant is now taking bookings for pre-Christmas meals

for which anyone interested is urged to call for further information.

The Lancaster cafe, bar and restaurant is open seven days a week from 8am till late.

For further information, or to make a reservation, call The Lancaster on 01702 546474.

The Lancaster

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- Fully licensed
- Open 7 days
- Breakfast, lunch & evening diners welcome

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Star treatment at Paparazzi

Advertisement feature

An Italian restaurant does more than just serve mouthwatering food - it can also pick its customers up and take them home again.

Paparazzi restaurant and bar, at 107 Hamlet Court Road, Westcliff-on-Sea, offers a unique service to its customers, in a bid to see them make the most of their evenings.

Its free minibus service, for up to 11 passengers, can pick you up from your own home and take you back again, after enjoying a delicious meal (conditions apply).

The restaurant has become a huge hit with customers since it opened its doors four years ago.

Its experienced chef serves a variety of menu options, ensuring there is something for everyone, including a full a la carte Italian menu, pizza and pasta, and Sunday roasts.

Its midweek set menu now offers a selection of new and improved dishes and is available from Tuesday to Friday.

It offers amazing value-for-money, with two courses costing just £9.95 per person.

A new three-course menu, costing £16.95, has also been introduced from Tuesday to Friday. The new menu is also available on Saturday nights for party bookings, which are ideal for a range of celebrations.

A Sunday Roast special deal also offers two traditional Sunday Roasts for £11.95 (terms and conditions

apply).

As well as its modern cuisine, diners will find a stylish and comfortable restaurant, which is fully licensed and air conditioned.

It boasts a private car park (ask for details) as well as a private area within the restaurant, which is ideal for parties of between 12 and 24 people.

Paparazzi restaurant can cater for all occasions from birthday parties and hen nights, to weddings and christenings. Staff can provide special function packs, offering a range of packages to suit individual requests.

They are also now taking bookings for Christmas when diners can enjoy a two or three-course meal, with DJ entertainment, from Friday, December 4.

The evenings, which are suitable for anyone from couples to large groups, promise a fantastic atmosphere with the added bonus of a free minibus service (terms and conditions apply).

Paparazzi restaurant is also open on Christmas Day for all the family, so anyone interested is urged to call for further information.

The family-friendly restaurant is open from 4.30pm to late, from Tuesday to Saturday, and from 1pm to late on Sunday. It is closed on Mondays.

For further information about the restaurant and its free pick up and drop off service (up to an eight mile radius and from one address only) or to make a reservation, call Paparazzi restaurant on 01702 344344.



christmas
DELIVERY
deals



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Meal Deal 5

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road test

Vauxhall goes Astra-nomical

by Steve Walker

THE Ford Focus has had its own way for far too long and as for that Volkswagen Golf? Well, it's about time that somebody knocked it off its perch.

These aren't the views of the nation's family hatchback buyers - this is a rough approximation of the thinking behind the scenes at Vauxhall, a manufacturer with its crosshairs trained on nothing less than the very top of this money-spinning market sector.

The car it hopes will hit the target is the latest Astra.

In the UK, the Astra brand carries plenty of weight with the public and Vauxhall will be looking for the latest version to hammer that advantage home.

To achieve this, it has worked on enhancing quality, increasing space and taking the driving experience to the next level.

The best that the Vauxhall engine range has to offer will get an outing in the Astra, but it's the suspension set-up that will be of more interest. Today's car, while still not fully independent in its set-up, uses a more advanced Watt's linkage rear suspension that helps distribute cornering forces more effectively than a conventional torsion beam, while retaining its cost and space saving advantages.

Put the Astra through its paces on the road and it's hard not to come away impressed.

The ride and body control are

assured and tight respectively as the car flows over the surface feeling well planted through bends.

The steering could be more precise but a slick gearshift and well-judged pedal weights go in the plus column.

Generally, the Astra is a highly polished drive.

Vauxhall promises a quieter and more compliant ride in the latest Astra, combined with sharper driving dynamics. The car is available with the standard suspension or Vauxhall's FlexRide variable damping system that allows the driver to choose from normal, Tour or Sport settings.

The 1.6-litre turbocharged petrol engine powers the livelier models and is strong on both power and torque.

Vauxhall's design team will have marked the Insignia down as a success and it's no surprise to see the Astra borrowing heavily from the pool of styling devices employed by its bigger brother.

The L-shape cut into the car's flanks is a reverse of the Insignia's but the lights, grille and bonnet bear marked similarities.

Inside, it's a similar story, with the

steering wheel, gear lever and centre console design lifted directly from the larger car.

The dash itself curves around the front seat occupants integrating cleanly with the doors and while the centre console does host a plethora of buttons, they're clearly marked and easy to use.

This Astra is significantly bigger than the one that preceded it. There's been an

18cm increase in length, a 7cm growth in the wheelbase and the track is 6cm wider.

It has enough space for three adults to occupy the rear and a boot of 370 litres, which is equal to the previous generation model.

The Astra range comprises five models - S, Exclusiv, SRi, SE and Elite - each of which comes with high levels of equipment as standard, including ESP, six airbags, air conditioning, daytime running lights

and electric windows.

Vauxhall will be looking for its latest Astra to make the kind of impact on the family hatch sector that the previous generation model never quite managed.

It's a fine driver's car that's still a fraction behind the top dogs in terms of sportiness but gives nothing away in comfort or composure.

The classy cabin is another strong suit with the look and feel having been raised far beyond what we've seen from Vauxhall in the past.



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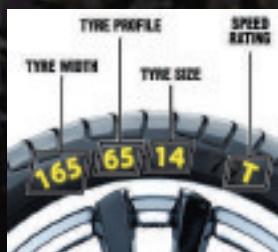
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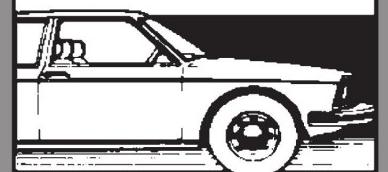
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Short of saving up to buy your own farm, you could become a farm manager or farm worker.

There are three main types of farm – livestock; arable and mixed. Farm workers carry out the practical work on a farm, while farm managers are employed to run a farm efficiently and profitably.

The roles do overlap, especially on smaller farms and at important moments in the natural calendar such as harvest time, lambing and calving.

Remember too, farming is a business – there is paperwork to do, grants to apply for and invoices and bills to manage.

Duties on a livestock farm include milking, feeding, mucking out and

caring for sick animals, supervising births and keeping records. Operating various types of farm machinery is a big part of the job and it helps if your practical nature extends to basic repairs.

Duties on an arable farm include mechanical jobs like ploughing, drilling seeds, spreading fertiliser, spraying crops and harvesting.

Skilled workers are much more likely to find work than unskilled workers, so get yourself some work experience, or enrol at agricultural college.

One final word of caution: if you have romantic notions of farm work, then nip them in the bud right now. The work is hard, the hours are long, the weather is a formidable foe, the basic wages are low, and the rural economy is in a woeful state.

But, if you're a country person at heart, it still knocks the socks off any office job in the world.

Visit these websites for more information....

- National Farmers Union www.nfu.org.uk
- ADAS www.adas.co.uk
- Farming and Countryside Education www.cla.org.uk

You must be...

fit, strong, like animals (but not be sentimental about them) and love the countryside.

For

You can enjoy doing something real and tangible, with the rootedness that comes from working with nature. Animals tend not to create any petty office arguments. And you get to work in the fresh air.

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Rain. Frost. Manure. Long hours. Early mornings. But if you love it you'll think it's worth it despite these irritations.

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01702 353 990

Kelly@essexjobsearch.com

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£20,000 - £24,000pa

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£22,000-£28,000pa

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For further information contact

Contact Kim Baker or Colin Taylor on

01702 361489/01702 361433

Email: kbaker@ensrg.co.uk

www.ensrecruitment.co.uk

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Yellow Advertiser

01268 503400

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DAB RADIO Pure Evoke 1S, brand new, instructions, 2yr guarantee, Argos p.1473, item.13, superb gift, cost £100, sell £50ono. Tel: 01702 351501.

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YOU do have to watch the quiet ones! Full figured sensual female, no ties, busty, seeks similar male for some sexy quiet times in together. Tel No: **0906 500 6358** Box No: 371354BEAUTIFUL broad minded female, 37, seeks similar open minded hunky guy for bedroom fun. Tel No: **0906 500 6358** Box No: 371350RARE beauty, curvy, long dark hair, big brown eyes, likes to have fun, seeks tall dark handsome lover to have mutual pleasures with. ACA. Tel No: **0906 500 6358** Box No: 371348ARE you up for something a bit different? Sexy slim feminine blonde, free no ties and open to sexy suggestion. Call me. Tel No: **0906 500 6358** Box No: 371346VOLUPTOUS young green eyed brunnete knows what she wants, seeks older mature professional male to satisfy her needs. Tel No: **0906 500 6358** Box No: 371344SULTRY brown eyed brunnete loves sexy fun, would love to get cosy with tactile, fun sexy guy. Tel No: **0906 500 6358** Box No: 371342GORGEOUS tall, leggy female, slim with great curves seeks intelligent guy who knows how to please. Tel No: **0906 500 6358** Box No: 371338CUTE sexy blonde, young 32, loves to dance, seeks good looking younger male for energetic sexy times. Tel No: **0906 500 6358** Box No: 371358TALL brown eyed blonde loves all ball sports! Seeks good fun loving, fanciable male to play with. Tel No: **0906 500 6358** Box No: 371356YOU won't believe your luck! Young busty flexible beauty seeks discreet older male for no strings adult fun and games. Tel No: **0906 500 6358** Box No: 366896GLAMOROUS green eyed blonde, loves to spoil her man and be treated to finer things in life, seeks sexy fun times. Status/age unimportant. Tel No: **0906 500 6358** Box No: 369098CONFIDENT dominant female who knows exactly what she wants, loves to dress up in leather. WLTW older dirty male for a good seeing too. Looks unimportant. Tel No: **0906 500 6358** Box No: 366894BEAUTIFUL busty feminine black female, 38+ long legs, great bum, seeks older male for adult fun and games! Tel No: **0906 500 6358** Box No: 366892YOUNG sexy, blue eyed blonde, 22, looking for excitement, seeks older male with plenty of experience to teach her a thing or two! ACA. Tel No: **0906 500 6358** Box No: 370334TALL slim active female, up for anything, seeks tall, adventurous male for intimate sexy times and something a bit different. Intrigued? Tel No: **0906 500 6358** Box No: 370332PASSIONATE curly, blue eyed blonde, nice breast, seeks male to share sexy conversations, a nice bottle of wine, cuddles, kisses and maybe a bit more? Tel No: **0906 500 6358** Box No: 370326VOLUPTOUS brunnete, big tits, big eyes, feminine, sexy,寻求 seeks big hunk to spice up her life and care for. Tel No: **0906 500 6358** Box No: 370324LOVELY young fit female, seeks genuine older male to help her a good times. Tel No: **0906 500 6358** Box No: 371352FREE spirited leggy, supermodel tall, tactile shy until you get to know me, seeks romantic male who can satisfy her. Tel No: **0906 500 6358** Box No: 370322

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Shrimpers beaten by title-chasing Charlton

Southend United

CHARLTON Athletic kept up their challenge at the top of Coca Cola League One with a 1-0 win over Southend United at the Valley.

Veteran striker Deon Burton scored the only goal of the game to condemn the Shrimpers to their fifth defeat in six games without scoring.

Blues boss Steve Tilson, though, was happy with his side's performance.

He said: "I thought we were the better team. We had the lion's share of possession and, at the very least, we deserved to come away with a point."

It started brightly for the visitors with on-loan striker Jabo Ibehre firing over before Franck Moussa volleyed wide through a busy penalty box.

Steve Mildenhall then pulled off a good save to deny Lloyd Sam, but it was Southend creating the better chances.

Lee Barnard was thwarted by Addicks keeper Rob Elliott and was then victim of a nasty piece of after when Sam Sodje trod on the ex-Tottenham man's hand as he lay on the floor in the box.

The incident was not spotted by either the referee or his assistants.

Shortly after, Charlton scored the only goal of the game when Burton headed in from Sam's cross from the right on 25 minutes.

Ex-Shrimper Nicky Bailey pulled another decent save out of Mildenhall from a free kick before the break, but chances dried up for both sides after the interval.

Simon Francis went closest for Southend with a free kick of his own, which went just over Elliott's bar.

Tilson's men drop to 14th in the table and will be looking to get back to winning ways against mid-table rivals Hartlepool at Roots Hall on Saturday.



CHANCE: Franck Moussa went close for the Blues early on.
Picture by Dave Montier

Irons beaten by champions

West Ham United

WEST Ham United were well-beaten as Premier League champions Manchester United closed the gap on leaders Chelsea on Saturday.

Despite being without seven first-team defenders and losing Gary Neville to injury, the Red Devils ran out 4-0 winners at Upton Park.

Sir Alex's Ferguson's side ended the match with midfielders Darren Fletcher, Michael Carrick and Ryan Giggs in defence.

The Hammers carved out the better chances as the visitors' makeshift rearguard got used to their new surroundings.

But the champions took control of the game just before half time when veteran Paul Scholes chested down a half clearance and volleyed beyond Robert Green.

Darren Gibson, who made a name for himself with two goals against Spurs in the Carling Cup last week, scored his third in two games after great work from Giggs and Wayne Rooney.

Antonia Valencia tapped in Manchester's third on 71 minutes before setting up Rooney to make it 4-0 a minute later.

Hammers boss Gianfranco Zola then changed keeper Green for the last 15 minutes with Hungarian Peter Kurucz replacing the England stopper, who was suffering throughout with illness.

By then, the result was beyond doubt.

Next up for Zola's men is a trip to in-form Birmingham City on Saturday.

Grays and Thurrock pick up a point, while City win

Non-League Football

GRAYS Athletic picked up a point from their Blue Square Premier Division clash with Mansfield on Saturday.

Although desperate for wins to pull them out of the drop zone, Grays will take comfort from a 0-0 draw at fourth-placed Stags.

It was also goalless at Thurrock where they were held by Havant & Waterlooville in the Blue Square South.

That gave Chelmsford City the chance to leapfrog them in the table, which they did thanks to a 1-0 win over St Albans.

Ricky Holmes bagged the only goal of the game on 65 minutes for the Clares to lift them to fourth in the table, but having played three

more games than Thurrock.

Canvey Island's push to catch the leading pack took a blow when they lost 2-1 to Horsham in the Ryman Premier Division.

Claude Seanal opened the scoring for the visitors before Jay Curran equalised. Lee Carney restored Horsham's lead and it proved to be the winner after James Rowe missed a late penalty for the Gulls.

Billericay Town continue to pull away from the bottom of the table after a 1-0 win over Tonbridge Angels.

Lee Kersey's goal sealed back-to-back wins for Town in a match held up for 20 minutes due to a serious injury to Angels defender Lewis Hamilton, who was taken to hospital after colliding with the pitch-side railings.

AFC Hornchurch were also 1-0 winners with Wayne Gray's 68th minute strike sealing victory over Sutton United.

Great Wakering Rovers have lost top spot in Ryman Division One North after going down 3-1 at home to second-from-bottom Ware.

They have now been overtaken by the impressive Lowestoft Town, who beat Northwood 3-1 and now lead the table by two points with six games in hand over Rovers.

Romford picked up a 3-2 win over East Thurrock United. Kris Newby gave the visitors the lead, but goals from Kurt Smith and Paul White put Boro 2-1 up before Steve West levelled for the Rocks.

East Thurrock were the stronger team for much of the second half, but Romford hit them on the

counter-attack with Martin Head rounding off a sweeping move for the winner.

Nick Skelton scored a late winner for 10-man Concord Rangers as they beat Cheshunt 2-1. Iain Salt gave the home side the lead, but Steve King equalised for Rangers before skipper Nicky Cowley was sent off.

Robert Carter scored both goals for Waltham Forest as they beat Harlow Town 2-0, while Redbridge were thumped 4-0 at Heybridge Swifts.

Anton Dwyer's goal earned Ilford a 1-1 draw with Thamesmead Town, while Dean Pennant's 87th-minute header on his debut sealed a 1-0 victory for Brentwood over Leyton.

Joe Keith and Manlee Brown scored the goals for Tilbury in a 2-0 win over Northwood.

Have you got a sports story?
Call the Sports Desk on 01268 503472 or fax us on 01268 503480.
You can also e-mail us at Sport@YellowAd.co.uk

Rugby Union

Southend win big over basement boys Albion

SOUTHEND picked up an impressive win in National League Two South with a 61-0 drubbing of bottom-club Bridgwater & Albion.

The home side scored nine tries in the rout with Andy Frost scoring one of them and converting eight.

Southend are fifth in the table, some 15 points behind leaders Barking.

Westcliff remain top of London One North after their 37-0 win over Stevenage Town, but Chingford are down to fourth after losing 13-7 to Staines. Brentwood were beaten 60-13 by Civil Service, while Woodford drew 15-all with Bury St Edmunds.

It was also a good day at the office for Thurrock in London Two North East. They beat Chelmsford 36-0 to stay top of the table, while Romford & Gidea Park beat Braintree 21-10 to leapfrog them into second spot.

Canvey Island's 19-7 win over Billericay in London Three North East helps keep them in touch with leaders Beccles.

The pair are level on points but Beccles have a much larger points difference.

South Woodham Ferrers fell behind in the chase after losing 32-29 to Lowestoft & Yarmouth, while Dagenham beat Upminster 15-7. Wanstead lost 20-0 to Wisbech in the same division, while Basildon went down 23-8 at Wymondham.

Maldon rattled up a 62-18 win over Thames in Essex One, while Champion beat Old Brentwoods 39-10 and Old Cooperians went down 22-14 at home to East London.

Writtle Wanderers beat Phantoms 46-0 in Essex Two, while Runwell Wyverns lost 33-5 at Brightlingsea and Stanford le Hope beat Kings Cross Steelers 17-5.

Essex County Football Association

Helping to train the referees of the future

A REFEREE Assessor Training Day is taking place at Essex County FA's offices on Sunday.

Existing senior referees or ex-referees can lend a hand to local match officials of the future.

The event, which will take place between 9am and 5pm, is viewed as a vitally important exercise for passing on knowledge to referee assessors who can then, in turn, mark the performances of their ambitious counterparts and prepare them for the next level of football.

ECFA's Referee Development Officer, Terry Thacker, said: "We're looking for any experienced ex-referee or senior referee who have time to assist our up-and-coming officials who are seeking promotion to the next level themselves.

"We will meet at the County Office for a briefing then go and watch a game, returning to the office after lunch for assessor training to begin on the incidents which were viewed at the match as well as grading the referee's performance."

Previous such events have proved incredibly popular and the increase in standards of officiating in the County remains a key goal for the ECFA in the 2008-12 Strategy.

Terry, who operates alongside David Dixon for the betterment of refereeing standards in the County, believes there are many reasons why a weathered official would want to assist ambitious colleagues.

He added: "Those involved in assessing believe they are helping young referees and are pleased to remain involved in the game if they're not still active. Football in general benefits as the standard of refereeing improves and more stay in the game."

If you're interested in attending the training, call Terry on 01245 393086 or e-mail terry.thacker@essexfa.com.

Terry would also be delighted to take any Essex-based refereeing queries alongside his colleague, David Dixon. Information is also available from www.essexfa.com